



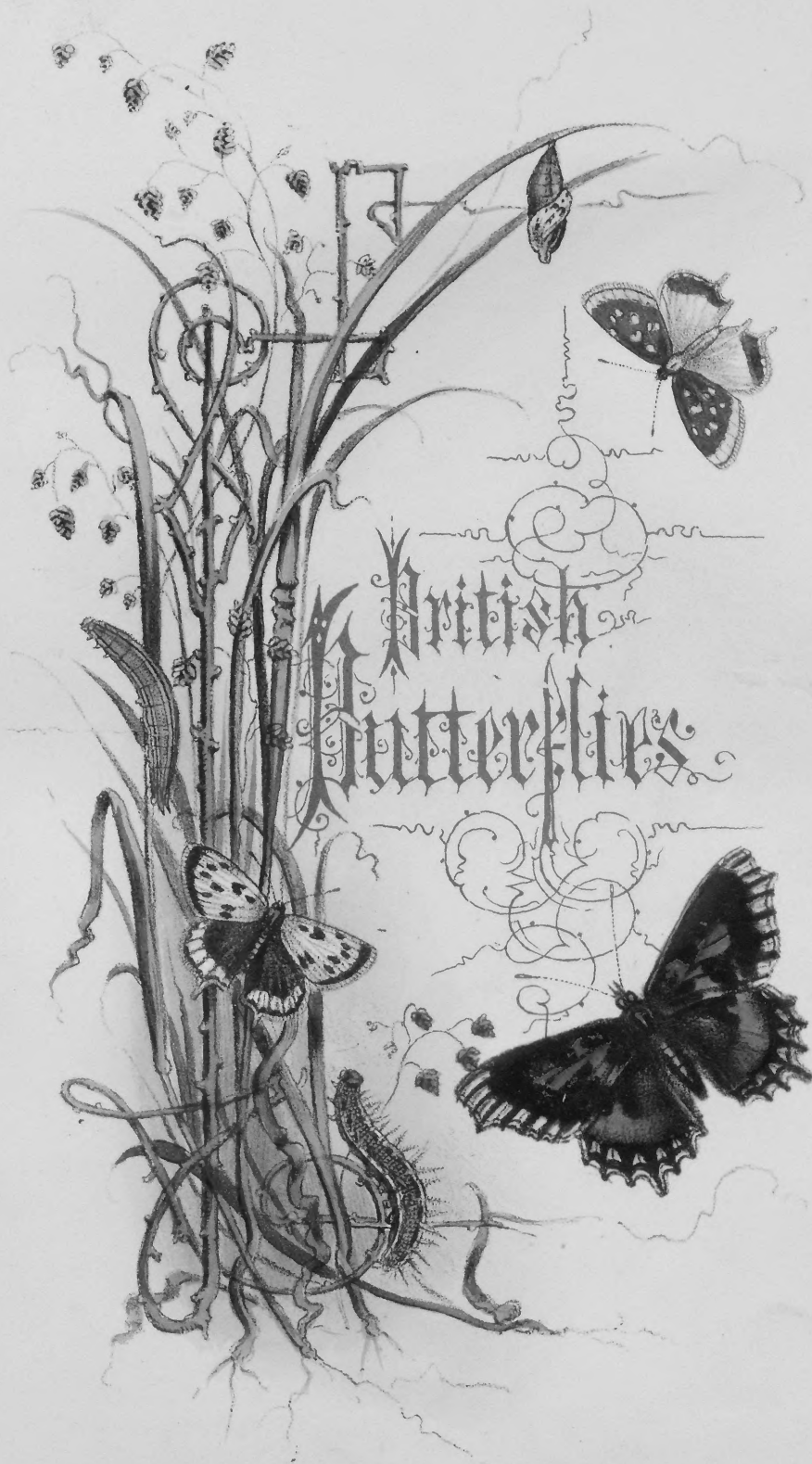


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THE  
GENERA AND SPECIES  
OF  
BRITISH BUTTERFLIES.

DESCRIBED AND ARRANGED ACCORDING TO THE SYSTEM NOW ADOPTED IN THE

BRITISH MUSEUM.

BY

H. NOEL HUMPHREYS,

AUTHOR OF "THE GENERA OF BRITISH MOTHS," "INSECT CHANGES," "THE BUTTERFLY VIVARIUM," ETC.

ILLUSTRATED BY PLATES, IN WHICH ALL THE SPECIES AND VARIETIES ARE REPRESENTED,  
ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE CATERPILLARS, AND  
THE PLANTS ON WHICH THEY FEED.

LONDON:  
PAUL JERRARD AND SON, 170, FLEET STREET.



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## THE INSECTS ON THE TITLE PAGE.

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Nor having found space to give many representations of mere "varieties" in the preceding Plates of British Butterflies, I have introduced in the Additional Title Page three of the most remarkable that occur among our native species. The large insect in the lower part of the page is a rich and very beautiful variety of the common *V. Urticæ*, which differs in several particulars from any variety I have previously met with (see page 27). It is in the possession of W. P. Russell, Esq., of Monks Eleigh, Suffolk, and was obtained during the present season (1859). From the deep cream-coloured bordering of the anterior wings, and the disposition of the dark brown-black to fill up nearly all the remainder of the fore-wings, it appears probable that it may be a hybrid between *A. Urticæ* and *A. Antiopa*.

Above the variety of *V. Urticæ* are two of the remarkable varieties of *C. Phleas* (the Small Meadow Copper), which occur in certain localities not unfrequently. In the lower of the two specimens, all the usually rich copper-colour is replaced by a milky white; while in the upper one it is the black that has disappeared, leaving white in its place. (See page 46.)



## PREFACE.

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WHEN I first became a collector of Butterflies, the pursuit was much less common than now; and few works upon the subject, in a popular form, existed; so that as my cabinet increased I began to find the want of some instructive manual, in which the distinctive characters of the different kinds of British Butterflies were not only described but also exhibited, by means of coloured representations of all the species, each of its natural size, and accompanied by their respective larvæ. Finding that no such work then existed, I determined to produce one myself; and, obtaining the aid of one of our most eminent entomologists, J. O. Westwood, Esq., I published, with his valuable assistance, a volume which I entitled “British Butterflies and their Transformations.”

The work was well received, and its sale has exhausted several editions. It undoubtedly did its part, however small, in extending the general taste for entomological studies; but as the circle of students became wider, it appeared to me that a work of less bulk, and of more popular character, might be serviceable. I therefore deemed this a fitting time for remodelling my subject, more especially as many changes have taken place in the mode of classifying our native Lepidoptera. With this view I have undertaken the present work, which, while it will be far less voluminous than the former one, in as far as the text is concerned, will yet contain a greater number of coloured representations of our British Butterflies, of which no single species, or even striking variety, will be omitted, and all the new species and varieties of recent discovery will be introduced.

Without sacrificing anything, as I hope, of scientific accuracy, I have sought to render the present work, and its subject, more attractive by exhibiting the insects in picturesque groups, flitting among the foliage and flowers of their native haunts, or hovering over plants upon which the larvæ may be seen feeding. I imagined that by thus presenting our indigenous butterflies to the notice of the student under a natural aspect, instead of displaying them in the form of dried specimens, as stiffly pinned out in a cabinet, my volume might possess the advantage (as an introductory work) of attracting many towards the study of this branch of Natural History who might be repelled by a more dry and technical arrangement. I mean such as generally characterises entomological works which have any pretension to a regular and comprehensive character; or such as embrace (as in the present instance) the complete treatment of any special section of the science.

## INTRODUCTION.

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ALL the tribes of insects necessarily excite our wonder and admiration, either from the striking metamorphoses which they undergo, or by their curious structure, or the intricacy of their form, or splendour of colour; but none arrest the attention of the tyro so soon as the beautiful and distinct class, known as Butterflies or Moths. The large size of the exquisitely constructed wings of this tribe of insects—so great in proportion to their generally slender bodies—and the exquisite traceries, often in the richest hues, with which those wings are decorated, render these insects at once conspicuous to the most inattentive observer.

This may be said more truly of the Butterfly than the Moth family, inasmuch as the wings of Butterflies are generally much larger and more splendidly coloured than those of Moths; and also because Butterflies fly by day, disporting in the bright sunshine where they cannot fail to attract observation, while the flight of Moths is generally nocturnal, and consequently remains unobserved except by the experienced student.

To pursue the detail of characteristics which distinguish Butterflies from Moths, I may call attention to the exquisite variety of colouring with which the under surfaces of their wings are decorated, often of totally different character to the markings of the upper side. In the class known as the Coppers, for instance, the upper surface of the wings is of a bright metallic scarlet, sometimes without spot or mark, while the under side is of a soft pearly gray, profusely dotted over with eyelike circlets of white surrounding a black spot or pupil. In Moths, on the other hand, the under-side of the wings generally presents but a pale reflex of the markings of the upper surface, and in no case are they of remarkable beauty as with many kinds of Butterflies.

Another distinction between these two closely related families of insects is the different markings of the wings, which occur in the two sexes; these are so distinct, and sometimes in both cases so beautiful, as to have led even the great Linnæus himself, in the comparative infancy of the science of Entomology, to mistake the male and female of the same kind for distinct species. As examples of this disparity I may cite the little blue Butterfly, known as the "Clifden Blue," in which the wings of the male are of a lovely azure, while those of the female are of deep brown. Then there is the common white Butterfly of our gardens, known as the "Garden White," which in the male sex has the beautiful creamy white of the wings perfectly immaculate, except at the dark tips, while in the wings of the female there are two large and very conspicuous black spots near the centre. In Moths, on the contrary, scarcely any distinction exists, in the markings of the wings of the respective sexes, though other distinctions still more singular distinguish them in that section of the family, but which do not call for detail in this place.

A somewhat remarkable distinction between Butterflies and Moths is that exhibited respectively by these



groups of insects when in repose ; the Butterfly sitting with its wings raised face to face over its back, while the Moth allows its wings to fall on each side towards the substance on which it is resting, and in this position they remain with the upper sides in full view, which, from the internal edges, slope outwards with about the inclination of an ordinary roof.

Still another distinction, and one which has served as the basis of the scientific line of separation, is the form of the horns, or antennæ, which in the Butterflies are invariably furnished with a small club-like appendage at the extremity, while in Moths the antennæ are always more or less pointed at the end.

In the preparatory and successive states of egg, caterpillar, and chrysalis, common to both Moths and Butterflies, the distinction is only strikingly remarkable in one stage, that of the chrysalis. The general aspect of the egg and caterpillar being in many cases so similar, that unless from positive knowledge of the species, it would be difficult to decide at a glance, whether they were the eggs and caterpillars of Moths or Butterflies ; but in the chrysalis stage the angular forms and light colouring of the Chrysalides of Butterflies at once distinguish them from those of Moths, the conical forms of which are generally smooth, and almost invariably dark-coloured.

A characteristic to be especially noted in these interesting insects, and perhaps the one most intimately connected with their peculiar beauty, is common to both Moths and Butterflies, and distinguishes them from nearly all other insects. I allude to the beautiful feather-like scales with which their wings are invariably clothed on the upper surface, and most frequently on the under surface also. This character, which the two families possess in common, has furnished the scientific title (to be described hereafter) of the 'order' to which they are made to belong. It is indeed an amply sufficient distinction, being a leading and prevailing characteristic, scarcely ever found in any other class of insects. There are, however, some remarkable exceptions ; as for instance, the perfect insect of the Caddis-worm, a creature very closely resembling a moth, which has the wings closely clothed with a precisely similar kind of scales ; and some other examples might be cited, though not in sufficient number to invalidate these characteristic scales as an all-sufficient means of distinguishing the insect 'order' now under description.

The wings of Butterflies and Moths may then, for all the purposes of scientific classification, be said to be, *exclusively*, furnished with a clothing of feather-like scales, to which they are indebted for all their beautiful markings ; for if these coloured scales be carefully brushed away, the naked wings will present, only upon a much larger scale, the general appearance of those of a common housefly, consisting, as they do, of an excessively thin and nearly perfectly transparent tissue, strengthened by a branching framework of nervures, or veins, as they are more commonly called, which maintains the almost film-like substance distended in an even plane, thus ensuring the form and also the strength necessary to the wings during their exertion in the action of flight.

In order to understand the nature of the entire existence of a Butterfly, it will be necessary to consider its aspect under the successive forms or metamorphoses by means of which its progress to completeness is effected.

The egg, which is laid by the female Butterfly in some secure situation, in which the infant insect when hatched is sure to find abundance of food, is ordinarily of about the dimension—to use a trite comparison—of a pin's head, of average size ; and to the naked eye it presents a somewhat similar appearance,—but placed under a microscope, beneath the power of which so many of the mysteries of nature have been unfolded, it assumes a peculiar and distinctive form, not found in any other class of eggs. The eggs of Butterflies and Moths are seldom or never of the usual oval or egg-form ; and instead of being smooth, like the eggs of birds, they are intricately decorated with delicate raised patterns and devices, sometimes extending over the entire surface. These patterns are of almost endless variety in different species. Those of the delicate little moth *Geometra Cratægata* are covered with regular geometric network, resembling a shallow honeycomb. The eggs of one of the brown Meadow Butterflies are

nearly spherical, but flattened at the base, and ornamented with rows of minute raised knobs disposed like the segmental marks in a peeled orange, only closer together. Those of another, of the "Meadow Brown's," are enriched with longitudinal ribs, connected in the lower portion by delicate horizontal marks, which at the top have the appearance of a small cap of scales. Those of the common Garden White Butterfly have fifteen small longitudinal ridges converging to the centre of the smaller extremity, the spaces between being ornamentally subdivided crosswise by a series of regular grooves or channels. It may be noticed that there is no calcareous substance contained in the shells of the eggs of insects analogous to that which forms the basis of the egg-shells of birds.

The eggs of Butterflies and Moths vary considerably in number, but are always abundant—the Moth of the Silkworm laying about 500, and the Goat-Moth above 1000. Those of Butterflies vary in similar proportions. As an instance of the beautiful symmetry with which the eggs of insects of this class are placed by the parent, in rows, close together, those of the common White Butterfly may be cited. Patches of them may often be observed upon cabbage leaves, when they look like small pieces of evenly woven lace, each opening being filled by a semi-transparent globule, resembling a little pearl. The eggs of other kinds are disposed in many different ways, some assuming the appearance of minute bracelets of beads, round the branches to which they are attached.

The mode of exit of the young larva, or Caterpillar of the Moth or Butterfly, from the shell is very various in different kinds. In general the little creature gnaws its way out at the part nearest the head, much as a chicken at the proper time pecks at the shell till it forces its way out. The gnawing process often costs the embryo Caterpillar many hours of labour, especially when the shell is thick, as in the eggs of some species, which being laid in the autumn, are destined to resist the trials of a winter, and not be hatched till the following spring. In some cases the shell is furnished with a kind of lid, which is lifted by a very complicated pulley apparatus, difficult to describe, but which the insect thoroughly understands—never making a mistake and pulling the wrong string. Many very singular peculiarities might be enumerated concerning the mode of exit of the young Caterpillar, but I must proceed at once to describe the next stage of his career, after his escape from his little quaintly sculptured prison.

The Caterpillar or larva of a Butterfly or Moth differs from the larva of most other kinds of insects, inasmuch as it almost always feeds on the leaves of plants,\* and is frequently gaily clothed in a skin of velvety texture of the richest colours, or with a mantle of silken fur of many hues, which makes it in its larva state nearly as attractive in general appearance (to those who have no prejudice against the wormlike form) as the perfect Butterfly itself. The larvæ of most other insects, on the contrary, are either naked and repulsive-looking grubs, feeding underground, or of still more unprepossessing forms, such as those, for instance, that pass their larva state in water.

The caterpillars or larvæ of Butterflies, to the description of which I must confine myself, should be described here in some detail. They are most commonly furnished with six positive legs, which represent those of the future Butterfly, and eight pro-legs, as they have been termed, appendages which merely serve to balance and secure the central and posterior portion of the body of the Caterpillar while feeding, and in holding on to the under side of leaves while the true legs are otherwise employed, perhaps in drawing the edge or some other portion of the leaf towards the mouth. These pro-legs entirely disappear after the Caterpillar stage, no trace of them remaining in the perfect insect. They are generally disposed as follows :—after the three segments next the head, which are each furnished with a pair of true legs, there are two segments without legs, the next four being each furnished with a pair of the above-named pro-legs; then follow two segments without legs, succeeded by the last segment, to which is attached a final pair of pro-legs, frequently somewhat different in character to the other four pairs.

\* With the exception of a few root-feeders.



This distribution is, however, not universal among the Caterpillars of Moths and Butterflies, though nearly so among the latter. The larvæ of some Moths, those called the Loopers, for instance, have the pro-legs differently disposed, and, among Butterflies, the onisciform Caterpillars of some kinds must be mentioned, which, while they have the gaily coloured skin and markings of Caterpillars, have nearly the form of the Woodlouse, to which the term onisciform refers.

The general appearance of Caterpillars is greatly varied by the nature of the skin, and the clothing or other appendages with which it is furnished. Some are nearly smooth and glossy, others have the skin of velvety texture, others are covered with small tubercles, surmounted by a black or coloured point, sometimes naked, but from which emerges frequently a slender filament, or a tuft, more or less spread, of shining hairs; others are entirely covered with a thick growth of richly coloured silky fur, or exhibit it arranged in a row of dense tufts, which appears as though cut off square at the top. But nearly all Caterpillars that are more or less clothed with hair are those of Moths, the Caterpillars of Butterflies (I am only speaking of British species) being more generally smooth, except when furnished with curious spines, such as those which distinguish the larva of the Peacock Butterfly and some others, to be spoken of in their proper places.

The head of the Caterpillar is the only firm or horny part, being necessarily so on account of furnishing the leverage for the powerful jaws or mandibles, by means of which the toughest foliage is cut through and masticated. The mouth, in the larva, or caterpillar state of insects, is very similar to that of the perfect insect, with the remarkable exception of the larvæ of Butterflies and Moths. In the larvæ of these the mouth is furnished, as before mentioned, with strong mandibles or jaws for the mastication of solid food, but in the perfect Butterfly nothing of the kind appears, the mandibles being replaced by the singular proboscis or trunk, the slender tube of which forms the only means by which the perfect Butterfly takes the little food he requires, which consists only of the delicate juices lying deep in the nectaries of flowers. Such is the contrast between the voracity of the Caterpillar, and the delicate appetite it exhibits in its perfected form.

The eyes of Caterpillars are generally very minute, often only perceptible by the use of the microscope, and they are not always situate in or near the head. In the Caterpillars of Butterflies they are generally six in number. Their distribution is various, but they are most frequently arranged in a circle. They are nothing like the exquisite faceted eyes of the perfect insect, but are merely simple globules, and disappear with the skin of the Caterpillar, like the pro-legs, leaving no trace in the perfect insect.

Antennæ or horns are slightly indicated in nearly all Caterpillars, in a minute rudimental state, but are often only visible by the aid of a powerful microscope.

The breathing apparatus of Caterpillars consists in a series of small apertures, termed spiracles, which are generally situated on each side of the body in a line just above the legs and pro-legs, and never occur in the head. These breathing apertures are generally surrounded by a distinctly marked iris of some bright colour, and are thus rendered tolerably conspicuous, though often very small.

The means of defence of Caterpillars against their several enemies is exceedingly various, but want of space prevents me from enumerating them here. I may, however, state that some have the power of spinning a web, by means of which they allow themselves to drop from a branch, and remain suspended in some less exposed place, till the danger is past. Some drop to the ground, while others—the Caterpillar of the Great Swallow-tail Butterfly for instance—is furnished with a fork-like appendage near the head, from which it can emit at pleasure a fetid odour, which has doubtless the virtue of proving very disagreeable to a certain class of enemies.

The enemies of Caterpillars are not only many tribes of birds, of which they form the chief summer food, but also a class of insects, the Ichneumon tribe, who deposit their eggs beneath the skin of the Caterpillar, by means of a sharp instrument or ovipositor with which they are furnished for that purpose. The eggs of the Ichneumon are hatched by the heat of the Caterpillar's body, and the young larvæ of the Ichneumon feed upon

the fatty substances within the devoted Caterpillar's body, taking care to avoid a vital part. When these parasitic larvæ arrive at their full growth they form their cocoons, and undergo their change to little Chrysalides within the body of their victim, which, under these circumstances, generally perishes about that period.

The growth of the Caterpillars of Butterflies is very rapid, and they cast their skin several times before arriving at their full growth, which in some instances, as in that of the common Butterfly known as the Silver-washed Fritillary, is in fourteen days.

Caterpillars are of no sex, though, as in the case of the eggs of birds, a certain portion, no doubt, are so pre-organised as to become males in the perfect state, and others females.

It was not till so recently as the end of the seventeenth century that the true nature of the progress from the larva to the perfect insect was known. At that period the invention of the microscope, combined with other causes, led to those scientific investigations which have been the means of unravelling the mystery of what seemed positive metamorphoses, but which now only appear successive steps of regular development. Swammerdam, among the foremost of a phalanx of indefatigable investigators, discovered, beneath the skin of the Caterpillar, all the embryo forms of the perfect insect, which become more and more palpable as the Caterpillar approaches its full growth. In the course of these minute dissections he discovered even the future wings, spirally folded in a singular and beautiful manner, and also the long antennæ and proboscis of the Butterfly, which were closely packed against the inner front of the head. The eventual legs, though so different in form, were also found, encased within the six pectoral legs of the Caterpillar. The skin of the Caterpillar is therefore little more than a second egg shell, and the Caterpillar, a creature become a walking egg, as it were, after having been within one that was motionless.

The strictly external members of the Caterpillar may therefore be considered in the light of a kind of disguise, and Linnaeus, taking this view of the subject, gave the name of *larva*, a Latin word meaning a *mask*, to this stage of the development of insect life. It is indeed a very happily selected and characteristic term, by means of which the stage of insect development, which follows that of the egg, is now universally expressed.

The English term "Caterpillar" is not perhaps so ingenious and characteristic as the one invented as a scientific definition by Linnaeus, but its origin is yet worth describing. In the earlier stages of the English language, *cates*, or *cate*, was a common term for provisions or delicacies of any kind, and was applied in that sense to garden herbs, or culinary vegetables: if to this we add the old Anglo-Norman verb *piller*, Anglicised to *pill*,\* we obtain for the larva of the Butterfly the highly descriptive title of cate-pillar, emphonised Caterpillar, that is, plant pillager, or destroyer.

The chrysalis is not formed till the larva has attained its full growth. At this period the Caterpillar, instinctively aware of the coming change, ceases to feed, quits the scene of its devastations, and seeks some spot of safety in which it may undergo its transformation, and remain securely in its semi-dormant state till the proper time for the final change, when the perfected insect is to issue from the shell of the chrysalis in all the completeness of its winged and final state. Some Caterpillars secure themselves to a branch or wall by means of a slender web which they loop across their bodies to prevent them from falling, as they sink into the dormant state which immediately precedes their change to the chrysalis. Others suspend themselves by the tail to some convenient object by means of a knot of a similar kind of web. These are the most usual methods adopted by the Caterpillars of Butterflies, but those of Moths often weave for themselves a perfect enclosure by means of their silken web, which is called a cocoon, while others burrow in the ground, and construct a protective cocoon of earth, often so slight, however, that when the chrysalis is accidentally dug up by the gardener the fragile cocoon falls to pieces, leaving the naked chrysalis exposed.

\* From which we have still—pillage, pilfer, &c.



After the larva of a Butterfly has suspended itself for change, the body gradually shortens and thickens, and in the course of a certain number of hours or days the soft skin of the Caterpillar shrivels, bursts, falls off, and discloses the horny case of the chrysalis, which has been so rapidly formed within.

The chrysalides of Butterflies are, as before stated, of much more angular form than those of Moths, having, nearly all of them, curious little spine-like points along their various ridges; these, however, do not entirely conceal the form of the insect within the shell; for in almost all cases the forms of the still small wings may be observed in the space traced out by linear markings on each side. Underneath, starting from the head, the form of the antennæ or horns may be traced; as may also the situation of the eyes. The articulations, or joints of the abdomen, are plainly shown, as they agree with the corresponding joints of the shell in which they are enclosed, and it is this portion of the chrysalis alone that is endowed with any power of motion.

The colour of the chrysalides of Butterflies varies from dull brown or green, to gray, and occasionally to more decided and brighter colours, often sprinkled more or less with black specks. Their most singular peculiarity, however, consists in metallic patches, resembling gold, which some of them exhibit. This effect, which led to some curious aberrations among the elder alchemists concerning the transmutations of metals, is now well known to be produced in the following manner. Reaumur satisfactorily explained that this golden appearance is caused by the existence of a layer of fluid between the transparent outer skin and the more solid part of the shell of the chrysalis, which is bright yellow, and which in certain lights produces the metallic effect. This may be easily proved, by moving about a fresh chrysalis of the Tortoiseshell Nettle Butterfly, when it will be found that the seeming specks of gold change their places with the fluid when the chrysalis is moved about in various directions. After a certain time this fluid dries, and the "gold" disappears.

The term, Chrysalis, is derived from this metallic appearance which some of them exhibit; being formed of the Greek word *krysalis* (κρύσαλλις), golden, or *krysos* (gold). The term Aurelia, likewise, by which this stage of insect development is also known, bears a similar import, from the Latin words *aurum* (gold), or *aurum* (golden). This last was a term in more common use than chrysalis among our early English collectors, who were thence termed Aurelians.

The time that the Butterfly remains in the chrysalis state varies in different species. But it may be stated that the chrysalides of the early broods of Caterpillars generally remain in the chrysalis state from fourteen to twenty days, while the late broods, even of the same kinds, generally continue in the chrysalis throughout the winter, and the perfected insect does not emerge till the following spring or summer.

When the time is arrived for the insect to escape from the horny husk or shell, the time of the coming change may be recognised in the chrysalides of Butterflies by the gradual darkening of the shell and its increasing transparency, by means of which the rich colouring of the wings within may often be perceived, and the species of Butterfly about to emerge easily distinguished. The first symptom of the positive breaking out of prison is shown by the splitting up the back of the shell of the chrysalis, caused by the muscular efforts of the insect within. The escape is then rapidly effected, but the wings are as soft as wet paper, and not larger than the indications of their outline upon the shell. They attain their full size, however, very rapidly, often within an hour, and sometimes in half that time, while in other cases a whole day is required. As the wings thus rapidly grow, or dilate, they harden at the same time, and, under the influence of a fine sunny day, the insect has only to raise and drop these splendid new additions to his organisation a few times, before he feels their strength sufficient for their destined purpose, and boldly takes to the new exercise of flight, in which he proves himself at once an adept without any previous practice.

Having now traced the Butterfly from the egg to the perfect or imago state, it remains to state, in as few words as possible, the nature of the scientific terms by which his stages of development have been distinguished, and by which the order to which he belongs is defined.

The egg state, as we have seen, was succeeded by the Caterpillar stage,—that for which Linnæus invented the generic term *larva*, or masked state. This was again succeeded by the chrysalis, for which the same celebrated naturalist invented the almost equally felicitous term *pupa*, being the Latin term for an infant, which, bound in its swaddling clothes, after the ancient fashion still prevalent on the Continent, suggested to Linnæus the idea of the larva bound in the chrysaline shell during the period which immediately preceded its change to the perfect state. This last he termed the *imago* state, or that of the true *image*, which had only been as it were, foreshadowed in the previous stages of its existence. The aptness of these definitions is proved by their general adoption—no other terms than larva, pupa, and imago, being now employed in scientific works to designate the three principal stages of insect life.

In dividing the vast numbers of the insect tribes into separate and homogeneous ‘orders,’ each distinguished by a title of appropriate character, the great family of Moths and Butterflies were formed by Linnæus into an ‘order’ bearing the title of *Lepidoptera*, a term formed of the Greek words *lepis*, a scale, making *lepidos* in the plural, and *pteron*, a wing, in allusion to the scales, with which the wings of this class of insects are invariably clothed. Aldrovandus, one of the old Italian naturalists, a contemporary of Shakespeare, adopted a similar mode of classification in reference to this order of insects, calling them *Ala farinosa*, that is, the farinaceous, or floury-winged order. This is, however, less strictly descriptive than that of Linnæus. But then Aldrovandus wrote before the invention of the microscope, which enabled later naturalists to define more exactly the nature of the seeming powder which covers the wings of Butterflies. A more recent naturalist, differing from Linnæus, regarded the proboscis, or trunk, as strictly peculiar to this order of insects, and thence called them the *Glossata*, or tongued tribe, a term founded on the Greek name of that organ. The Linnæan term has, however, prevailed; and Butterflies and Moths are now finally only known in scientific classification by the term *Lepidoptera*.

Having settled the principle upon which the order was to be established, and the name by which it was to be distinguished, Linnæus next attempted a series of subdivisions. Of these he made three principal ones. The first he termed *Papilio*, from the ancient Latin name by which the Butterfly was popularly known. This division included all the Butterflies, or day-flyers. The second he fancifully termed *Sphinx*—a name which he adopted, because the Caterpillars, when in repose, assumed an attitude not unlike that in which the fabled Sphinx is generally represented. This division included the first section of the great Moth family—being those which generally fly by twilight. To the third class, consisting of all the rest of the Moth tribe which generally fly by night, he gave the term *Phalæna*, a term which he may have adopted from the Greek word *φάλανα*, which means either a glow-worm, or any insect giving out light, and thus rendered conspicuous by night—the moth being only noticed in flight at that time: or he may have adopted another meaning of the word, which refers to such insects as fly towards a lighted candle. Latreille found the general division thus effected open to little objection; but he discarded the fanciful terms by which they were distinguished, and adopted the more descriptive term *Diurna*, or day-flyers, for the first section; *Crepuscularia*, or twilight-flyers, for the second division; and *Nocturna*, comprising the night-flyers, for the last. The more recent method, however, adopted by Dr. Boisduval, in which only two great subdivisions are recognised instead of three, has been generally adopted in the scientific world. The great order *Lepidoptera* is, therefore, now divided, first into *Rhopalocera*, or those having clubbed horns, or antennæ, from the Greek *ropalon* (ρόπαλον), a club, or knob; and *ceras* (κέρας), a horn; and secondly, into *Heterocera*, consisting of such as have various kinds of antennæ, but never clubbed—the last term being composed of the Greek words *eteros* (ἕτερος), dissimilar, with the addition of *ceras*, a horn, as before.

These scientific terms, *Rhopalocera* and *Heterocera*, correspond very naturally and conveniently with our popular terms, Butterflies and Moths, and serve to separate the great scale-winged family in a precisely similar manner.

It is only with the first division, *Rhopalocera*, or Butterflies, that we have to do in this volume ; and of these, only with that small section which are natives of the British Isles, among which, however, will be found some remarkably beautiful species, and much to interest the student in tracing their metamorphoses, their habits, their distribution, and their classification.

With "Part Ten" of this work some account will be given of the best mode of capturing Butterflies ; also of rearing them from the egg or Caterpillar stages. It will also be shown in a detailed account of some portions of the physiology of insects, that the power of appreciating *pain* is almost entirely absent in their organisation ; and that, therefore, Entomological pursuits are entirely free from the charge of cruelty which has been so often and so ignorantly urged against them.





# THE GENERA AND SPECIES OF BRITISH BUTTERFLIES.

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## PLATE I.

No. 1.—The Great Swallow-tailed Butterfly (*Papilio Machaon*).  
No. 2.—The Under side of the Great Swallow-tailed Butterfly.  
No. 3.—The Caterpillar of the Great Swallow-tailed Butterfly.  
No. 4.—The Chrysalis of the Great Swallow-tailed Butterfly.  
No. 5.—The Brimstone Butterfly (*Gonepteryx Rhamni*).

No. 6.—The Female of the Brimstone Butterfly.  
No. 7.—The Under side of the Male Brimstone Butterfly.  
No. 8.—The Caterpillar of the Brimstone Butterfly.  
No. 9.—The Chrysalis of the Brimstone Butterfly.

THE division *Rhopalocera*, as shown in the Introduction, is that section of the order *Lepidoptera* containing all the groups distinguished by clubbed antennæ, that is, all kinds of 'Butterflies;' which are thus distinguished from Moths.

The first Family of this division are termed the *Papilionidæ*.

The first Sub-Family, according to the system I am following, is defined as *Papilionidi*, containing only one British genus, *Papilio*, a genus which includes but a single native species, though the exotic kinds are so numerous, and so various, both in form and colour.

The insects comprised in the Genus *Papilio* are distinguished by antennæ somewhat elongate, and terminated by a knob or club of moderate size. The palpi are very short, and have the third joint almost obsolete; the eyes are large, and not clothed with hairs, as in some other genera. The abdomen is short, and the hind wings are long and narrow, and generally terminate at the angle next the body in a more or less elongated portion, having a tail-like appearance. The anterior pair of legs are alike in both sexes, and are fitted for walking, as well as the two hinder pair, which is not the case in genera which I shall shortly have to describe. The Caterpillars are smooth, and the Chrysalides are looped to the substance on which they have undergone their transformation with a thread of web: they are also attached by the tail, the head pointing upwards.

*Papilio Machaon* (the Great Swallow-tail, No. 1), is the largest, and perhaps on the whole the most strikingly handsome of all our native Butterflies, and is abundant in many localities. It is, however, rare in the metropolitan counties, though there are records of its occasional capture in Hampshire, Sussex, Kent, and even Middlesex. It emerges from the chrysalis in May, and is seen till the end of August, but must be sought in its own favourite localities, the Fens of Huntingdon and Cambridgeshire, or at Whittlesea Mere, which is another of its haunts. Norwich, Yaxley, and Pulborough in Sussex, are also named as places where it has been recently captured in some plenty. The Caterpillar (No. 3) is found in June and September, there being two broods according to Continental entomologists. It feeds upon many plants common to marshy districts,

preferring the *Umbelliferae*, especially the Marsh-milk Parsley and Wild Carrot. It is furnished with a fork-like appendage near the head, by means of which it is said that it is able to emit a fœtid odour which keeps off Ichneumons. The under side of the wings of this fine insect is much paler than the upper, and somewhat differently marked, as represented at No. 2. The chrysalis of the Great Swallow-tail (No. 3) is shown suspended to a branch of the Wild Carrot. *P. Machaon* is much more abundant on the Continent than in England.

*Papilio Podalirius* was formerly claimed as a British species, and it is to be regretted that the proofs have turned out insufficient, and that it cannot even be artificially naturalised after several attempts, though very common on the neighbouring shores of the Continent, for it is as fine an insect as *P. Machaon*, with the markings of which its broad zebra-like stripes form a fine contrast. This handsome species is exceedingly common in the Campagna, in the immediate neighbourhood of Rome, where I captured many fine specimens, and from whence I brought chrysalides which I reared in England, turning many of the perfected insects loose in suitable localities, in hopes that the species might establish itself; but they all disappeared without any results. Both *P. Machaon* and *P. Podalirius* are, as I have said, common on the Continent, and they are among the species named by Linnæus, who in conferring specific and sometimes even generic denominations, seldom adopted descriptive or characteristic names in the way now generally adopted, but gave arbitrary appellations, after historical or mythological persons of the early ages of Greece or Rome. These two fine species received their names in this manner after the two sons of Esculapius—Podalirius and Machaon, and will continue to bear them, in honour of their great name-father, so long as the present systems of science shall continue, though so completely at variance with the present system of nomenclature.

The second Sub-Family of the *Papilionidæ* is that of the *Rhodoceri*, a name derived from Greek words meaning red-horned, in allusion to the pinkish or brownish pink antennæ by which the genera it contains are distinguished: these are the following, *Gonepteryx* and *Colias*.

The Genus *Gonepteryx* is so named from the angular form of the anterior wings, from the Greek word *gonia* (γωνία), an angle, and *pteron* (πτερον) a wing. The antennæ are short and rather robust, terminating in a club, towards which they gradually thicken. The front pair of legs are alike in both sexes, and are, as well as the posterior pairs, fitted for walking. The Caterpillars are attenuated at each end, and the Chrysalis always attached by the tail, as well as suspended by a loop round the middle.

*Gonepteryx Rhamni* (the Brimstone, No. 5), is generally the first of the Butterfly tribe to announce the coming summer, making his appearance, on fine days, as early as March or even February; becoming, however, much more abundant in the more genial days of April. The female (No. 6) is nearly white, and by the inexperienced is often taken for one of the common Garden Whites. The under side of this insect scarcely varies from the upper, but in the male it is somewhat paler, as shown at No. 7. A second brood appears in August.

The Caterpillar (No. 8) feeds upon the leaves of the common Buckthorn, *Rhamnus Catharticus*, from which its specific name is derived, and also upon the Berry-bearing Alder, *R. Frangulus*, and some other allied trees. The Chrysalis (No. 9) is green, with some small red dots, and suspended with a loop like others of the family.

This pretty insect is common in all parts of England, as far north as Newcastle, but is rarely found in Scotland. A beautiful variety occurs commonly on the Continent, once made a separate species as *Gonepteryx Cleopatra*, in which the anterior wings of the male are beautifully suffused in the centre with a large patch of the richest orange colour, becoming fainter towards the edges. Some specimens occasionally captured in England are mentioned as having slight indications of this peculiarity. In the neighbourhood of Rome, however, I captured numbers of the orange variety, which appeared to be quite as common there as those of the sulphur colour.





## PLATE II.

No. 1.—The Clouded Yellow Butterfly (*Colias Edusa*).  
 No. 2.—The Female of the Clouded Yellow Butterfly.  
 No. 3.—The Under side of the Clouded Yellow Butterfly.  
 No. 4.—A Variety of the Clouded Yellow Butterfly.  
 No. 5.—The Caterpillar of the Clouded Yellow Butterfly.

No. 6.—The Chrysalis of the Clouded Yellow Butterfly.  
 No. 7.—The Pale Clouded Yellow Butterfly (*Colias Hyale*).  
 No. 8.—The Female of the Pale Clouded Yellow Butterfly.  
 No. 9.—The Caterpillar of the Pale Clouded Yellow Butterfly.

THE Genus *Colias*. The insects contained in this genus are more robust, both in the texture of the wings and the dimensions of the body, than the preceding, from which they are also distinguished by the rounded apex of the anterior wings, the deep black bordering of which forms another distinctive feature. The antennæ are short, rather thick, and swelling gradually into the final club or knob. The Caterpillar is naked, somewhat elongate, and tubercled. The chrysalis is rather short, and at the head somewhat hooked in a beak-like form; it is suspended by a girth of web, and attached at the tail by a knob of the same substance. The name was conferred by Fabricius, who, in this instance, following the system of Linnæus, gave an arbitrary one, a surname of Aphrodite, the Greek Venus, who had a statue on the Attic promontory of *Colias*.

*Colias Edusa* (the Clouded Yellow, No. 1), is one of our handsomest Butterflies, the fine contrast of its black and orange markings having probably suggested to Fabricius the idea of selecting one of the titles of the goddess of beauty as the name of the genus. It is very common in some seasons in this country, but in others comparatively rare. Its abundance once in three or four years has not been satisfactorily explained. The Caterpillar (No. 5), is found in the spring feeding on different plants of the trefoil family, and the perfect insect appears later in August, frequenting lucern and clover fields, and is sometimes seen as late as October, at which time the sunny side of railway banks is said to be one of its favourite resorts. Bembridge, Isle of Wight, Blandford, Brighton, Plymouth, Teignmouth, Winchester, &c., are named as good localities for the capture of this handsome insect.

The female (No. 2) is generally rather larger than the male; is of a somewhat clearer orange, and is also distinguished by bright yellow dashes in the black border. The under side of the male (No. 3) is almost exactly similar to that of the female, though so different on the upper side, both being remarkable for the spot of silver in the centre of the circlet in the hind wings.

No. 4 is a striking variety of the female, of not uncommon occurrence, in which the whole of the orange and yellow tones are suffused with a pervading tone of bluish gray, which gives rather a green tone to the hind wings. The chrysalis is represented in No. 6.

*Colias Hyale* (the Pale Clouded Yellow, No. 7), is a very distinct species, and much more rare than *C. Edusa*. Its wings are of very chaste and delicate colouring, which may have suggested to Linnæus its specific designation of *Hyale*, one of the nymphs of Diana, for it figures under that name in his great division *Papilio*. The pervading colour of the male is a delicate lemon yellow. It does not differ in its markings from the

female (No. 8), but the ground colour of the latter is creamy white. On the under side, however, they are both alike, and though so much more delicately coloured than *C. Edusa* on the upper surface, they are on the underside much more strongly tinted than that insect, though the tones are similar.

The Caterpillar (No. 9) feeds on *Medicago* and other leguminous plants in the spring, and the perfect insect appears in the autumn. Though a very common insect in the neighbouring countries of the Continent, it is comparatively rare in England, except in certain seasons; in 1842, for instance, it was abundant, and it has been taken in some numbers during the present season. The following are the places in which it has been captured most frequently: Brighton, Ramsgate, Bristol, Dorchester, Epping, Lewes, Leicester, Manchester, Peterborough, York, and some places in Ireland.

I am indebted to my friend, MR. ADAM WHITE, of the British Museum, for the following note:

“The two British species of *Colias* are very widely distributed. The *C. Hyale* has been taken in the Punjab, and also on the slopes of the Himalaya, while both the species are found at Dhargeeling in N. India, and at Shanghai, in Northern China. Indeed there seems to be every reason to believe that both the species, like the ‘Painted Lady Butterfly,’ are all but cosmopolitan. The question, how some species are so generally distributed, and others so limited in their geographical range, is one of great interest. We may yet also be able to ascertain why some species are abundant every five or six years, like the species of *Colias*, and again become scarce. The moisture or dryness of the atmosphere, and the consequences of such meteorological changes, must affect all insects more or less, but some more particularly than others. A long period of frost kills many, and *might* kill *all*, of the specimens of certain shell-fish in our seas, as has been well observed by the late HUGH MILLER, while others, closely allied, are quite unaffected. These others are found to extend far north, into regions subject to long periods of frost; while the delicate species belong specifically to temperate, or more southerly regions. From somewhat similar reasons, *Colias Edusa*, and *Hyale*, and the ‘Camberwell Beauty’ Butterfly (*Vanessa Antiopa*), may vary in their abundance. Other species of *Colias* are found very far north. The sobered gaiety of the *Colias Bootlii*, of Curtis, cheered Sir James Clarke Ross and his comrades on the shores of Prince Regent’s Inlet; while Sir John Richardson, Captain Collinson, and other Arctic voyagers, sent to the British Museum species of *Colias*, and other Butterflies, from localities where an Arctic winter rules for nearly three-quarters of the year. Where flowers bloom on the disappearance of the snow, *there* Bees and Butterflies are found, and none are more cheerful or gay than the species of *Colias*. At St. Martin’s Falls, Albany River, near Hudson’s Bay, Mr. GEORGE BARNSTON found one species to be very common.”





### PLATE III.

- No. 1.—The Black-veined White Butterfly (*Aporia Cratægi*).  
 No. 2.—The Female of the Black-veined White Butterfly,  
 showing the Under side.  
 No. 3.—The Caterpillar of the Black-veined White Butterfly.  
 No. 4.—The Chrysalis of the Black-veined White Butterfly.

- No. 5.—The Great Cabbage-White Butterfly—the Female,  
 (*Pieris Brassicæ*).  
 No. 6.—The Male of the Great Cabbage-White Butterfly  
 showing the Under side.  
 No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Great Cabbage-White Butterfly.  
 No. 8.—The Chrysalis of the Great Cabbage-White Butterfly.

THE third Sub-Family of the *Papilionidæ* is that of the *Pieridi*, containing the genera *Aporia*, *Pieris*, *Euchloe*, and *Leucophasia*.

The Genus *Aporia* contains but one British species, resembling, in general aspect, the Garden Whites of the genus *Pieris*, but distinguished from them in a very marked degree, both by its habits and structure. In this genus the first distinguishing character appears to be the excessively thin layer of scales by which the wings are covered, which are nearly transparent. It is, doubtless, from this circumstance that Hübner adopted for it the generic name *Aporia*—a Greek word, meaning destitute, in allusion to the nakedness of the wings. The second, is the robust structure of the veins or nervations, which are very conspicuous by their black or brown colour; and in some species, especially the British one, *A. Cratægi*, a similar nervure to those which branch over and support the broad surface of the wing, also extends round the extreme edge, which is without the usual ciliæ or fringing. The legs are similar to those of the preceding sub-family, but the antennæ are longer, and the club, though graduated in a similar manner, is not so large. The larva is of long proportion, and partially clothed with short hairs. The chrysalis is rounded instead of angulated at the part enclosing the thorax, and is generally of a light yellow or green colour, marbled with black, and is suspended by a girth of web, and attached at the tail.

*Aporia Cratægi* (the Black-veined White, No. 1). This conspicuous insect is one of those which may be called periodical, as it is extremely rare except at intervals of three or four years, or more, when it appears in great abundance. On the Continent it is generally plentiful, and its larvæ are very destructive. Linnæus called this species the pest of gardens, and Kollar and De Geer have given a detailed account of it as one of the insects most injurious to the prospects of more than one class of cultivators. It has been occasionally seen on the wing in such vast abundance in the north of Europe as to produce the appearance of a widely prevailing snow-storm.

The female (No. 2) is represented so as to show that the under side of the wings is the same as the upper, and, at the same time, to exhibit the distinctive colour of the veins or nervations which in the female, are generally of a rich brown colour, while in the male they are of a bright shining black.

The Caterpillar (No. 3) feeds on the Whitethorn, *Cratægus Oxyacantha*, and other kinds of *Cratægus*, from which it receives its specific name; it appears early in the spring, and the perfect insect in June.

The Chrysalis is represented under figure 4.

The most recent places noted for the capture of this Butterfly are Corsham in Wiltshire, Lyndhurst, where

it was abundant, Peterborough, Herne Bay, some places in the Isle of Thanet, Moreton in Devonshire. The New Forest is also mentioned as one of the places where it was formerly taken in abundance, as well as Chelsea, Muswell Hill, and other localities near London.

The Genus *Pieris* embraces all those white Butterflies of our gardens, popularly known as the "Garden Whites." The name *Pieris* was conferred by Schrank, in substitution for that of *Pontia*, which it was desirable on several accounts to change. In selecting the new term, now generally accepted, the German naturalist may have been influenced by the consideration that it was probably the observation of the metamorphoses of some of these abundant species (the types of the genus) that suggested to the poets of Greece the beautiful fable of Psyche, that is, the Soul, founded on the apparent death of the creeping Caterpillar in its chrysaline condition, and its seeming resurrection in a more perfect state. If so, the term *Pieris*, from the Greek *Pierides* (*πριερίδες*), the Muses, seems a very appropriate one, of that fanciful kind adopted by Linnæus; but now very rarely, if ever, adopted in the formation of either generic or specific nomenclature. The genus *Pieris* is distinguished by larger and more slender antennæ than the preceding; the wings are rather pointed, and tipped with black; and the females are distinguished by one or more black spots near the centre of the anterior wings, which are always absent in the males; and all the wings are edged with a deeper and more regular fringe than any of the preceding genera. The palpi have the terminal joint as long or longer than the second, and the legs are long and slender, and alike in both sexes; the anterior pair being perfect. The Caterpillars are tuberculated, with short hairs springing from the tubercles. The chrysalis is remarkably angulated, especially above the thorax, where it is rounded in the preceding genus. It undergoes the change in various positions, but always looped, and attached by the tail.

*Pieris Brassicæ* (the Great Cabbage White, No. 5), is by far the largest of the genus, and is a very handsome insect, well worthy of more careful examination than it generally meets with; for it is not merely black and white, as appears at a first glance, but chastely decorated with many beautiful gradations of colour. The ground tone of creamy white, for instance, deepens towards the front of the anterior wings, and the hind ones are entirely of a warmer hue, both being enriched by a soft dusky shade at the base, formed of innumerable gray specks, while the black tip is softened off into the delicate ground colour in a similar manner. On the under-side, as shown in the representation (No. 6), the tips are buff where they are black above, and the hind wings are entirely buff, microscopically powdered with minute black specks, and ornamented with a slender line of orange down the anterior margin; both wings having the under side of the fringe of a warmer buff than that of any other part. The antennæ, also, are ornamented with a beautiful series of dots beneath, which are not visible on the upper side. The female (No. 5) exhibits conspicuously the black dots by which the anterior wings of that sex are distinguished, and is generally, as in many species of Butterflies, rather larger than the male. The male, though without the black spots on the upper surface, exhibits them conspicuously on the underside of the anterior wings.

The well-known Caterpillar (No. 7), of which two broods appear every season, appears to prefer the common garden Cabbage to all other food, though it is often found devouring many kinds of Cruciferous plants. The Chrysalis (No. 8) is represented attached, in the way which characterises this and other allied genera, to a stem of Cabbage, in flower, though it generally prefers the trunk of a tree, a wall, or old paling.

This well-known species is common everywhere, not only in England, but in the whole of Europe, the north of Africa, Asiatic Siberia, and even in Nepaul and Japan, though the species found in the two last-named places are thought by some to present sufficient distinction in some features to cause them to be eventually classed as distinct species.





## PLATE IV.

No. 1.—The Small Cabbage-White Butterfly (*Pieris Rapæ*).  
 No. 2.—The Female of the Small Cabbage-White Butterfly,  
 No. 3.—The Under side of the Small Cabbage-White Butterfly.  
 No. 4.—The Caterpillar of the Small Cabbage-White Butterfly.  
 No. 5.—The Chrysalis of the Small Cabbage-White Butterfly.

No. 6.—The Green-veined White Butterfly (*Pieris Napi*).  
 No. 7.—The Female of the Green-veined White Butterfly.  
 No. 8.—Under side of the Green-veined White Butterfly.  
 No. 9.—The Caterpillar of the Green-veined White Butterfly.  
 No. 10.—The Chrysalis of the Green-veined White Butterfly.

PIERIS RAPÆ (the small Cabbage-White, Nos. 1 to 5) is frequently mistaken by those unlearned in the natural history of Butterflies for the young of the larger species, *P. Brassicæ*; and at the first glance there appears a great similarity between them. On a closer examination, however, it will be observed that there are several distinguishing characteristics, altogether independent of size. In the first place, the males have generally a more or less distinct black spot in the centre of the fore wings, which is never found in the larger kind, while the two black spots of the female, (No 2), are more conspicuous, and in that sex the wings, on the upper surface, are often thickly powdered with gray, so as to give them a much more dusky appearance. The underside (shown at No. 3) exhibits the hind wings of a darker buff, and much more thickly powdered with brown than in the large kind. I have seen specimens with the buff of the underside of the hind wings very much darker than in the specimen represented at No. 3, and others with a strong shade of dusky green running up the veins or nervures; the specimens of the last-named kind being, I believe, hybrids between *P. Rapæ* and *P. Napi*. The Caterpillar, (No. 4) appears both in the spring and autumn, there being two broods annually. The chrysalis, (No. 5) is found attached to branches or some other support, in a similar manner to that of the larger species, and if produced in the autumn it remains in the pupa state throughout the winter, the perfect insect appearing early in the spring. The chrysalides resulting from the spring brood of Caterpillars only remain in that state from eight to sixteen days before the perfect insect is produced.

The most marked distinction to be found between this and the larger species is, however, to be sought in the preparatory or Caterpillar stage, in which it is perfectly distinct, as will be seen on reference to the representation No. 4, Plate IV., as compared with No. 3, Plate III. The Caterpillar of *P. Rapæ* feeds on several kinds of cruciferous plants, especially the common Rape, from which its specific name is derived; and also the wild Mignonette, and many exotic plants now naturalised in our gardens, especially the *Tropæolum majus*, commonly known as the Nasturtium.

This species varies very remarkably in its markings, some of the males being entirely without the white spot in the centre of the fore wings, while others are found in which the whole of the upper surface of the wings are of a dusky gray; and there are many intermediate varieties. The chief of these have been formerly described as distinct species by the names of *Pontia Metra* (distinguished by its smaller size), *Papilio alba media immaculata* (the male of *P. Rapæ*), *Papilio alba media trimaculata* (the female of *P. Rapæ*), and several others.

*Pieris Napi* (the Green-veined Cabbage-White, Nos. 6 to 10) has also been confused both with *P. Brassicæ* and

the species last described, by those unacquainted with entomology; it is however very distinct from both. From *P. Rapæ* by the almost constant absence of the black spot in the centre of the fore wings of the male, and from both by the peculiar green markings of the under side of the hind wings, from which it takes its popular name, the Green-veined White. The male (No. 6) is not only without the black spot above alluded to, but also nearly without the dark marks at the tips of the fore wings, though they are sometimes much more conspicuous than in the specimen represented. The female (No. 7) has the spots, and the marks at the tips of the fore wings similar to those of the female of *P. Rapæ*, but generally much paler. The Caterpillar is distinguished from that of the preceding species by the absence of the yellow line down the back. It feeds upon *Brassica napus*, from which it takes its name, and also upon several other cruciferous plants, especially the common cabbage; in feeding upon which, both this and the preceding species do not confine themselves to the external leaves of the plant, like the larvæ of *P. Brassicæ*, but eat into the heart; they are consequently much more destructive, and are known in France as the *ver du cœur*. The Caterpillars appear in spring and autumn, like those of *P. Rapæ*. Both the small species of *Pieris* are further distinguished from the large one by the disposition of the eggs, which are laid singly, instead of in agglutinated patches.

The varieties of *P. Napi* are numerous, among the most remarkable of which are those specimens which have the veins of the upper side of the wings rather strongly marked with dusky black, which were made a species by H. STEPHENS, under the name of *P. Sabellicæ*; and the *P. Napææ*, made a separate species by ESPEY, which is of a larger size than the ordinary specimens of *P. Napi*.





## PLATE V.

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| <p>No. 1.—The Green-chequered White Butterfly (<i>Pieris Daplidice</i>).</p> <p>No. 2.—The Female of the Green-chequered White Butterfly.</p> <p>No. 3.—The Under side of the Green-chequered White Butterfly.</p> <p>No. 4.—The Caterpillar of the Green-chequered White Butterfly.</p> <p>No. 5.—The Chrysalis of the Green-chequered White Butterfly.</p> <p>No. 6.—The Orange-tip Butterfly (<i>Euchloe Cardamines</i>).</p> <p>No. 7.—The Female of the Orange-tip Butterfly.</p> <p>No. 8.—The Under side of the Orange-tip Butterfly.</p> | <p>No. 9.—The Caterpillar of the Orange-tip Butterfly.</p> <p>No. 10.—The Chrysalis of the Orange-tip Butterfly.</p> <p>No. 11.—The Wood White Butterfly (<i>Leucophasia Sinapis</i>).</p> <p>No. 12.—The Female of the Wood White Butterfly.</p> <p>No. 13.—The Under side of the Wood White Butterfly.</p> <p>No. 14.—The Caterpillar of the Wood White Butterfly.</p> <p>No. 15.—The Chrysalis of the Wood White Butterfly.</p> |
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PIERIS DAPLIDICE (the Green Chequered White) was till recently made a separate genus (*Mancipium*), though some British entomologists have proposed making it form, with *E. Cardamines*, a section of the genus *Pieris*. The alliance with *E. Cardamines* was opposed; the green mottling of the underside of the hind wings common to both these insects being deemed too trivial an affinity to form the basis of a generic relationship, especially when the peculiar form and general character of the chrysalis of *E. Cardamines* was taken into consideration; but *Daplidice* has since been united to the *Pierides*, leaving *E. Cardamines* to form a separate genus. Upon examination, this arrangement will be found tolerably satisfactory, as *P. Daplidice* exhibits many of the typical characters of the *Pierides*, with which it is more strongly linked by the intermediate species *P. Rapæ*, and more especially *P. Napi*, described in the last Plate. Mr. Westwood notices the angularity and slightly indented margin of the anterior wings of the males of *P. Daplidice*, while those of the females are more blunt at the angle, and rounded in the external outline; a peculiarity observable also in the male and female of *P. Napi*. The antennæ also of that species, in the sudden flattening of the club, strongly resemble those of *P. Daplidice*. The male of *P. Daplidice* (No. 1) is distinguished from the female (No. 2), by the absence of the second black spot on the fore-wings. The fine green chequering with which the underside of the hind-wings is pencilled, and from which the popular designation of this beautiful insect is derived, is shown at No. 3. I have taken the Caterpillar (No. 4) described by Boisduval rather than that described by Hübner, as it agrees better with the accounts given of its appearance by continental collectors, which we must be content to rely upon till this insect has been discovered in the larva state in England, of which at present there is no record. The Chrysalis (No. 5) accords pretty closely with those of the other species in the genus *Pieris*, though it is of somewhat shorter, thicker, and rounder proportions. The Caterpillar is found on the Continent at two seasons, Spring and Autumn, at nearly the same periods as those of the Common 'Whites,' and the insect is very common in the South of Europe, though so rare with us. It is said to feed on the Wild Mignonette, and also on several cruciferous plants of the Cabbage tribe; and is generally found in dry and sandy situations. With us it is one of the greatest of our Entomological rarities, for though its capture has occurred in several localities, only single specimens have been taken. I have more than once listened to the late Mr. F. Stephens' interesting account of his capture of the famous specimen in his fine Collection, which took place in the month of August in the year 1818, in a meadow behind Dover Castle, where another specimen has since been taken. White Wood, near Cambridge, is celebrated as

one of the localities for its capture, and Whittlesea Mere and Worcester have been since added, where single specimens have also been obtained. Some have imagined that one of the old names of this insect 'the Bath White,' was given on account of the first British specimen having been taken near that city, but Lewin clearly states that it was from a piece of needlework executed at Bath, copied from an insect, which was only *said* to have been taken in that neighbourhood; it was most probably a continental specimen.

The genus *Euchloe* is distinguished from *Pieris* by the more rounded form of the wings, and their less robust character; also by the distribution of the nervures, and some minute distinctions in the palpi. It differs more strikingly in the preparatory stages, the Caterpillars being much more slender, and the Chrysalis of the distinct form termed boat-shaped; being equally pointed at both ends, very hard and stiff, and entirely without the usual segmental joints. It is slung with the head downwards. The name is derived from the Greek words *eu* (ευ), very, and *chloe* (χλωη), green, in allusion to the remarkable green mottling of the underside of the hind-wings. There is only one British species.

*Euchloe Cardamines* is one of our prettiest species; the fore-wings of the male (No. 6) are beautifully marked with a broad patch of orange, extending from the tip to near the centre. The female (No. 7) is without these conspicuous marks of orange, but has the black spot in the centre of the anterior wings rather larger; in other respects the markings are the same as those of the male; the remarkable green mottlings of the underside of the hind-wings (as shown at No. 8) being equally strong in both sexes. The Caterpillar (No. 9) feeds in preference upon the *Cardamine impatiens*, or *Turritis glabra*, to which its singular Chrysalis is generally attached, as shown at No. 10. The perfect insect appears in May, but specimens are frequently seen as late as the end of July.

This pretty insect is very apt to vary in its markings, female specimens having been taken with an orange mark on the underside of the fore-wings; others with the black spot nearly, if not entirely absent; while in others an additional black spot appears in the hind-wings.

The genus *Leucophasia*. The insects assigned to this genus bear such remarkable affinity to those included in *Euchloe*, that for the sake of not multiplying generic names they might have been conveniently classed with that genus. The rounded form of the anterior wings, and the form and colouring of the Caterpillars, as well as the boat-shaped Chrysalis, marks at once their close relationship. Distinctions of a very well defined character nevertheless exist, such as the remarkably short discoidal cell in the nervures of the wings in *Leucophasia*, from which the branching nervures are consequently of unusual length, and rather peculiar in their distribution; while the Chrysalis, though of similar form to that of *E. Cardamines*, is not so much bent in the middle, and has the segments enclosing the abdomen moveable. The proportions of the Caterpillar are rather shorter and thicker than those of *E. Cardamines*, but the body of the perfect insect is more slender and long.

*Leucophasia Sinapis* (the Wood White, No. 11) is a very local though not a rare insect. The female (No. 12) is generally, though not always, without the broad blackish mark at the extremity of the fore wings. The colouring of the underside, which differs slightly from the upper, is shown at No. 13. The Caterpillar (No. 14) feeds upon *Vicia cracca*, and also upon several of the common species of Lotus found in woods. The Chrysalis (No. 15) is suspended in a similar manner to that of *E. Cardamines*, and the perfect insect appears in May. There is also a second brood which appears in August. This pretty insect may be at once recognised by its slow and undulating flight, and from its preference of the shaded glades of woods rather than the open sunshine. It has been taken in plenty in the Kentish woods near Pembury, and in similar situations in the neighbourhood of Teignmouth, Stowmarket, and Worcester. It is probable, therefore, that it will be found in many other sheltered woody localities. It seems, however, only to make its appearance in certain situations periodically, as its capture is once recorded by Mr. Stainton in great abundance at Lyndhurst, though not usually occurring there.



## PLATE VI.

No. 1.—The Marbled White Butterfly (*Arge Galathea*).  
 No. 2.—The Under side of the Marbled White Butterfly.  
 No. 3.—A Variety of the Marbled White Butterfly.  
 No. 4.—The Caterpillar of the Marbled White Butterfly.  
 No. 5.—The Chrysalis of the Marbled White Butterfly.  
 No. 6.—The Speckled Wood Butterfly (*Lasiommata Aegeria*).  
 No. 7.—The Under side of the Speckled Wood Butterfly.

No. 8.—The Caterpillar of the Speckled Wood Butterfly.  
 No. 9.—The Chrysalis of the Speckled Wood Butterfly.  
 No. 10.—The Wall Butterfly (*Lasiommata Megera*).  
 No. 11.—The Female of the Wall Butterfly.  
 No. 12.—The Under side of the Wall Butterfly.  
 No. 13.—The Caterpillar of the Wall Butterfly.  
 No. 14.—The Chrysalis of the Wall Butterfly.

THE second Family of Butterflies is that of the *Nymphalidae*, which is distinguished by having only four legs fitted for walking, the front pair being always, more or less, of merely rudimental character. The Caterpillars are considerably attenuated towards each extremity, and have either a fork at the tail or two horn-like appendages at the head. The Chrysalis is suspended by the tail only, having no belt of silk round the body.

The first Sub-Family of the *Nymphalidae*, as that of the *Satyridi*, contains the six genera, *Arge*, *Lasiommata*, *Hipparchia*, *Enodia*, *Erebia*, and *Cænonympha*.

The genus *Arge* is distinguished, like all those of this sub-family, by the rudimental character of the front pair of legs, and also by the dentation, or rather scallop-like undulation, of the hind-wings. The larvæ have the body slightly thickened in the middle, and attenuated at each extremity, the tail being forked. The Chrysalis is without spines or tubercles, and is suspended by the tail.

*Arge Galathea* (the Marbled White, No. 1) is very local, but abundant enough in many favourable situations. The underside (No. 2) is paler than the upper, and rather differently marked. The female is generally somewhat larger than the male, and the ground colour of the wings is yellower. The variety (No. 3) is one of the most unusual; there are other varieties of more common occurrence, among them, one in which the dark marks, instead of being black, are of a fine light brown. There is a fine specimen of this variety in the British Museum. In some varieties the marks of the underside are nearly absent. The Caterpillar feeds in preference on Timothy-grass, but is also found in other grasses growing in woody situations. It appears in June and July, flying in damp open places in woods, in a wavering and lazy manner, upon which habit it is possible that Esper founded his generic name, *Arge*, from *Argos* (*Ἀργός*), indolent. It is taken plentifully near Blandford, Brighton, Kingsbury, &c. &c., and less abundantly in many other places, but has not yet occurred in any part of Scotland.

The genus *Lasiommata* is distinguished from the preceding and other nearly related genera by the peculiar character of the eyes, which are covered with short hairs, a character upon which Mr. Westwood founded the present generic name from *lasios* (*λασιος*), hairy, and *omma* (*ομμα*), an eye. The front pair of legs are much more conspicuous than in *Arge*, and are of equal length in both sexes, though not fitted for walking. The Caterpillar is attenuated at each extremity, with two short points at the tail. The pupa is short and thick, and furnished



with several angular projections, especially two, much more conspicuous than the others, near the head. It is suspended only by the tail.

*Lasiommata Aegeria* (the Speckled Wood, No. 6) is one of the commonest of our brown Butterflies. It is subject to considerable variations in the intensity of its marks, but no very striking varieties occur. The underside (No. 7) is very pleasingly varied in the tones of colour. The females are generally more brightly marked, and have the patches of light colour in the upper surface of the wings more extended than the male, and they are generally somewhat larger than the other sex. The Caterpillar (No. 8) feeds on *Triticum repens* and other common grasses, from the blades of which the Chrysalis (No. 9) may often be found suspended. The perfect insect appears in April, June, and August, there being three or more broods in the year. It is common everywhere, generally frequenting shady lanes and hedgerows in preference to open meadows.

*Lasiommata Megera* (the Wall, No. 10) is the only other species of this genus. It is as common as the preceding. The male (No. 10) is always much smaller and more strongly marked than the female (No. 11). The underside of this species is very beautifully decorated with delicate rings, each of which enclose a series of smaller circlelets most perfectly and delicately pencilled, as shown at No. 12. The Caterpillar (No. 13) feeds upon various grasses, and is found in May and at the beginning of August, but must be sought at nights with a light, like most of those belonging to this group. The perfect insect appears in April and again in the autumn. It frequents shady lanes and hedgerows, like *L. Aegeria*.



## PLATE VII.

No. 1.—The Grayling Butterfly (*Hipparchia semele*).

No. 2.—The Female of the Grayling Butterfly.

No. 3.—The Under side of the Grayling Butterfly.

No. 4.—The Caterpillar of the Grayling Butterfly.

No. 5.—The Chrysalis of the Grayling Butterfly.

No. 6.—The Meadow Brown Butterfly (*Hipparchia janira*).

No. 7.—The Female of the Meadow Brown Butterfly.

No. 8.—The Under side of the Meadow Brown Butterfly.

No. 9.—The Caterpillar of the Meadow Brown Butterfly.

No. 10.—The Chrysalis of the Meadow Brown Butterfly.

No. 11.—The Gate Keeper Butterfly (*Hipparchia titonus*).

No. 12.—The Female of the Gate Keeper Butterfly.

No. 13.—The Under side of the Gate Keeper Butterfly.

No. 14.—The Caterpillar of the Gate Keeper Butterfly.

No. 15.—The Chrysalis of the Gate Keeper Butterfly.

THE genus *Hipparchia* is distinguished from the preceding one by the smoothness of the eyes, which are entirely free from the clothing of hair which distinguishes the *Lasionmatæ*. It is also distinguished by the thickening of the nervures at the base of the fore wings. The hinder pair of wings are denticulated at the fringed edge. The antennæ are slender in all the species, but varying considerably in the size and obtuseness of the club. The front pair of legs are smaller than the others, and unfitted for walking, but distinctly visible in both sexes; those of the males being more clothed with hair than those of the females; the tarsal portion being simple in the males, but articulate in the females. The larvæ are attenuated at each extremity, the tail being slightly forked. One species undergoes the change to the chrysalis stage in the ground, forming a cocoon of particles of earth and silken web. In the other kinds the Chrysalids are suspended by the tail to blades of grass, &c. There are three British species, *Semele*, *Janira*, and *Titonus*.

*Hipparchia semele* (the Grayling, No. 1) is by far the largest of the genus, frequently measuring two inches and a-half across the expanded wings. The markings of this handsome insect vary very considerably, both in size and intensity; the light markings in the male (No. 1) being sometimes so much darker than in ordinary specimens as to be scarcely distinguishable from the ground colour. In the female (No. 2) these marks, as well as the black circlelets or ocelli, are always much larger and more conspicuous than in the males. The under side of the Grayling (No. 3) is very elegantly varied, both in tone and in the character of the markings, the hind wings being of a soft gray tone, beautifully marbled with delicate streaky penicillings of a deeper colour. The Caterpillar (No. 4) appears early in the Spring, and feeds on several kinds of our common grasses, and according to M. Marloy's account, in the Annals of the Entomological Society of France, retires into the earth to undergo its change, where it forms an earthen cocoon. In my Plate I have represented the Chrysalis (No. 5) suspended to a blade of grass, according to the habits of others of the species, as I have never seen a chrysalis of the species while still clothed with its cocoon. I have no doubt, however, that M. Marloy is correct in his statement. Those who wish to rear this species from the larva stage should (in localities where the insect abounds) seek the Caterpillars at night, with a lamp, as they are night feeders, concealing themselves in the daytime, either in the ground or about the roots of the grasses on which they feed. The perfect insect appears in July, and

though rather local, is by no means rare. The neighbourhoods of Brighton, Bristol, Exeter, Plymouth, and Teignmouth, are cited as localities where it may be taken abundantly; and in many others it is very far from uncommon, even as far north as Ebinburgh.

*Hipparchia Janira* (the Meadow Brown, No. 6) is perhaps the commonest of all our native Butterflies, not even excepting the 'Garden Whites.' The meadows, in May and June, are quite alive with this abundant insect, and no variety of season appears to influence its time of appearance or its numbers. The male (No. 6) is entirely of one unbroken tone of rich dark brown on the upper surface, with the exception of a small and somewhat obscure circlet of black and orange, having a white speck in the centre, which speck is sometimes double. Singular varieties occur, however, in which the central portions of the wings are nearly denuded of the feather-like scales, and are thereby rendered partially transparent. I have also seen a variety in which the whole upper surface of the wings was but very slightly clothed, and of a pale drab colour, instead of the usual rich brown. The female (No. 7) has the black circlet of the anterior wings surrounded with a fine orange patch, more or less mottled, and a distinct and broad border of a deeper colour round the hind wings. Deceived by this difference of marking, Linnaeus mistook the sexes for distinct species (as in many other similar instances), calling the male *Papilio Janira*, and the female *Papilio Jurtina*. In such cases, when the error is discovered, it is the specific name of the male that is preserved, so that, although Linnaeus's great genus or class *Papilio* has been subdivided into numerous families, sub-families, and genera, we have still his original name *Janira*, preserved in the denomination of this species, as *Hipparchia Janira*. The under side (No. 8) is nearly alike in both sexes. The Caterpillar (No. 9) feeds on grasses, and suspends itself by the tail to undergo the change to the chrysalis stage. The Chrysalis (No. 10) is double-pointed at the head. The perfect insect appears throughout the Summer, and is common everywhere.

*Hipparchia Tithonus* (the Gate Keeper, No. 11) is nearly as common as the preceding. The male (No. 11) is much smaller than the female, but more richly coloured, some being much darker, and generally of a richer tone than the one represented, which is a medium specimen. The female (No. 12) scarcely varies at all in its colour or markings, but the dark border of the wings is sometimes rather paler and narrower than in the specimen represented. On the under side (No. 13) the sexes closely resemble each other, the males being sometimes rather darker. The Caterpillar (No. 14) is found feeding on grasses early in June, and when full fed it suspends itself by the tail to undergo its change. The Chrysalis (No. 15) is of short, thick form, the back being of a dark olive, but beneath, to the extent of the wing-cases, of a much paler colour. The perfect insect appears in July. It is very common, though becoming somewhat more rare in the northern counties, and not being found at all in Scotland.





## PLATE VIII.

- No. 1.—The Ringlet Butterfly (*Enodia Hyperanthus*).  
 No. 2.—The Ringlet Butterfly, showing the Under side.  
 No. 3.—The Caterpillar of the Ringlet Butterfly.  
 No. 4.—The Chrysalis of the Ringlet Butterfly.  
 No. 5.—The Scarce Scotch Argus Butterfly, the Female (*Erebia Ligea*).  
 No. 6.—The Male of the Scarce Scotch Argus Butterfly, showing the Under side.

- No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Scarce Scotch Argus Butterfly.  
 No. 8.—The Scotch Argus Butterfly, the Female (*Erebia Blandina*).  
 No. 9.—The Male of the Scotch Argus Butterfly, showing the Under side.  
 No. 10.—The Small Ringlet Butterfly (*Erebia Cassiope*).  
 No. 11.—The Small Ringlet Butterfly, showing the Under side.

THE genus *Enodia* of Hübner contains a group of insects closely allied to those of the genus *Hipparchia* of Fabricius, from which the common Ringlet Butterfly has been recently removed to *Enodia*, on account of structural distinctions, which, though slight, appear to justify the new location of this insect. It is, however, by some English entomologists still retained in its old position.

*Enodia Hyperanthus* (the Ringlet, No. 1). This common Butterfly, though not quite so abundant as one or two other species of *Nymphalidae*, is yet found very plentifully in damp grassy places, and in shady lanes and the borders of woods, in all parts of the country. The under side, as represented at No. 2, is very beautifully marked with a series of ocelli, or small rings, from which it takes its popular name, the 'Ringlet.' There is but little difference, either in size, or in the markings, between the male and female of this species; the latter seems, however, to have, very frequently, three distinct ocelli on the upper side of the front wings, while in the males, only one, or sometimes two, are distinctly visible, and they are sometimes entirely absent. This insect is, indeed, subject to considerable variation in its markings, in both sexes. On the under side, for instance, the rings or circlets are so large in some specimens as to be joined together, occasionally having smaller additional ocelli attached to them, while in other instances the ocelli are so nearly obliterated as to be only represented by small white specks. The Caterpillar (No. 3) feeds upon Millet Grass, or upon *Poa Annua*, the common annual Meadow Grass. It takes its food at night, concealing itself about the roots during the day. The Chrysalis (No. 4), which is shorter, thicker, and smoother, than those belonging to the genus *Hipparchia*, is suspended by the tail.

The genus *Erebia* is distinguished from *Hipparchia* by having only one of the nervures of the anterior wings thickened at the base. The fore feet, in the male, are so small, as to be scarcely visible, while in the female they are comparatively long, and have the tarsal portion articulated. The hind wings are slightly denticulated. Dolman's generic term *Erebia* has been preferred to Mr. Westwood's *Oreina*, on the ground of its priority, and as being in accordance with the most accredited continental systems of classification.

*Erebia Ligea* (the Scarce Scotch Argus, No. 5). This fine insect can scarcely be considered a native of Britain, though specimens were undoubtedly taken some years ago in the Isle of Arran by Sir Patrick Walker and Alexander Macleay, Esq. Accidental captures of that kind are not sufficient, however, to prove any

insect to be a native. It may either be a wanderer, brought over from the Continent on the wing during a westerly gale, or may have been imported in the egg, or pupa, state in foreign vessels, as is certainly the case with the two fine Sphinges, *Deilephila Livornica* and *Charoecampa Celerio*, as well as many other lepidopterous insects, occasionally taken in the British Islands, and placed in our entomological cabinets as British. This species of *Erebia* may be at once recognised by the collector lucky enough to meet with it, by the deep white fringe, interrupted by brown, at the junction of the nervures; the fringe in all the other reputed British species being brown. The male (No. 6) is smaller than the female, and has the circlelets on the upper side of the anterior wings less distinct, and without the central specks or white. A single pair of *Erebia Ligea* are the only specimens in the collection in the British Museum. It is said to be a Swedish insect, and if so, the specimens taken in Arran may possibly have been wanderers from that country. The Caterpillar is figured at No. 7.

*Erebia Blandina* (the Scotch Argus). The specimen figured at No. 8 is a female, having the orange marks, and the circlelets with white centres more distinct than in the males, as shown in the representation of the male specimen at No. 9. The fringe is brown, like the general upper surface of the wings, but rather paler in the female. In the figure No. 9 the colouring of the under side is shown, which varies in the sexes, and also to some extent in different specimens; but it is always without the distinct white mark which distinguishes the last-described species. The Caterpillar is described as light green, with brown and white longitudinal stripes, but no trustworthy representation has yet been published. In Mr. R. F. Logan's forthcoming "Illustrations of Scottish Lepidoptera," however, we shall probably be made acquainted with the details of the transformation of this and many other of the rarer species of British Lepidoptera occurring only in the North. In England it has been taken in some profusion in the magnesian limestone district near Newcastle, in the neighbourhood of Kendal, and at Colne, and also at Wharfedale in Yorkshire, and a few other places. In Scotland it is found in the Isle of Arran and several other localities; and occurs more especially, in some abundance, over a district of considerable extent in Dumfries-shire. Varieties occur in this species, both as to the distinctness and number of the ocelli.

*Erebia Cassiope* (the Small Ringlet, Nos. 10 and 11). This pretty species differs considerably from the two preceding, not only in size, but in the elongated proportion of the wings, and in the absence of denticulation in the fringed edge of the hinder pair. It also differs in the markings of the under side, which are of a similar colour to those of the upper surface, and without any of the gray tones which distinguish the two larger species. It has been taken at various places in the mountainous parts of Westmoreland and Cumberland; the males appearing about the middle of June, the females not till somewhat later. It must always be sought at a considerable elevation on the mountain sides, and generally in damp and grassy recesses. In Scotland it is found in many parts of the Southern counties, and as far North as Rannock in Perthshire; and probably, if well sought for, even to the most Northern extremities of the Highlands, in favourable situations.

Only three species of this interesting genus are at present admitted into the English lists, but others doubtless exist, and will be discovered by enterprising explorers among the mountains of Wales or Wieklow, or many of the Scottish ranges, as yet not half explored. On the Continent, in precisely similar situations, eighteen or twenty species are found, and few of them are especially rare. I think I counted full that number in the collection of the late lamented M. Pierret. In the various mountain districts between Grenoble and the Mont Cenis, which I made the scene of a summer ramble a few summers ago, the dark rich brown of many species of this pretty family of Butterflies quite tinted the green slopes of that Alpine region with various tones of brown; which, however, disappeared almost instantly whenever a passing cloud obscured the sun, every insect settling among the grass, and becoming invisible till another gleam of sunlight brought them out again. I collected many species and varieties, but having no entomological apparatus with me, my specimens became so much injured in travelling as not to be worth preserving.



## PLATE IX.

No. 1.—The Marsh Ringlet Butterfly (*Cænonympha Davus*).  
 No. 2.—The Marsh Ringlet Butterfly, showing the Under side.  
 No. 3.—The Small Heath Butterfly (*Cænonympha Pamphilus*).  
 No. 4.—The Small Heath Butterfly, showing the Under side.  
 No. 5.—The Caterpillar of the Small Heath Butterfly.

No. 6.—The White Admiral Butterfly (*Limenitis Sibilla*).  
 No. 7.—The White Admiral Butterfly, showing the Under side.  
 No. 8.—The Caterpillar of the White Admiral Butterfly.  
 No. 9.—The Chrysalis of the White Admiral Butterfly.

THE genus *Cænonympha* contains two of the smaller kinds of the well-defined sub-family grouped under the title of *Satyridi*. The hind wings are not denticulated at the fringed edge. The anterior wings have three of the nervures much enlarged or swollen near the base. The antennæ are annulated with grey and brown. The larvæ are quite smooth, and shining.

*Cænonympha Davus*, (the Marsh Ringlet, Nos. 1 and 2). This pretty Heath Butterfly, only found in the North, is very variable in its markings, especially in different localities. This circumstance led our earlier collectors (at a time when few specimens were found in collections for comparison) to imagine that several distinct British species closely allied to *Davus* existed; and some of the varieties received the specific names, *Typhon*, *Polydama*, *Iphis*, &c., two dark varieties being named respectively *Hero* and *Ascanius*; all of which are, I think, satisfactorily proved to have been merely varieties of *C. Davus*. The details of the transformations of this pretty species are at present but imperfectly known. It has been taken plentifully in the marshes between Stockport and Ashton, and at Trafford, Whit Moss, in the neighbourhood of Manchester, and also on some of the marshy moors of Yorkshire; Thorn Moor and Hatfield Chase, for instance. The Pentland Hills and other places in Scotland, are recorded as localities where it has been captured more recently.

*Cænonympha Pamphilus*, (the Small Heath, Nos. 3 and 4). This is one of the commonest of our native Butterflies, while its near relative *C. Davus*, as we have just seen, must be ranked among the rarest. The Caterpillar (No. 5) feeds on several common meadow grasses, but in preference upon the *Poa annua* or the crested Dog's-tail grass, *Cynosurus Cristatus*. It is common everywhere, in favourable situations.

The second Sub-Family of the *Nymphalidæ*, distinguished as the *Nymphalidi*, contains two British genera, *Limenitis* and *Apatura*, each represented by a single species, ranking in both cases among the most remarkable of our native *Lepidoptera*, especially *Apatura Iris*, which may perhaps be considered the crowning jewel of a British collection.

The genus *Limenitis*, in the perfect state, appears very closely related to *Apatura*, but is distinguished from it by the following characteristics. It is generally of less robust formation, and the fore-wings are rounded at the external edge instead of being partially concave as in *Apatura*: the hind-wings also are more rounded: the more gradual formation of the club of the antennæ is another good generic distinction. In the larva state the distinction is much more marked; the Caterpillar having several pairs of fleshy spines on the

back, each clothed with fine bristles, a feature which is entirely absent in the larva state of *Apatura Iris*. The pupa is beaked, and suspended by the tail.

*Limenitis Sibilla*, (the White Admiral, No. 6). This is one of our handsomest native Butterflies. When on the wing, its fine sailing motion displays the striking contrast of its black and white markings to great advantage, forming a tempting prize to the eager Lepidopterist. Haworth relates that an old London collector, long after he was able to pursue an active Butterfly, would go to the woods where this species then abounded, for the sole purpose of "feasting his eyes with its fascinating evolutions." I first saw this beautiful insect in Italy, in a vineyard near Rome, and was almost as much delighted as Haworth's enthusiast; but the capture of several specimens in a few hours, for it was very plentiful, soon decreased the intensity of the attraction. The under side (No. 7) resembles, in its delicate gray, white, brown, and orange markings, the under side of *Apatura Iris*, which it almost rivals in beauty. The Caterpillar (No. 8) feeds on honeysuckle. The Chrysalis (No. 9) is curiously formed, and has the metallic markings which distinguish the pupæ of the next sub-family, that of the *Vanessidi*. The perfect insect appears in July, and is now a rare species, though once tolerably abundant in many of the Southern Counties. The woods near Winchester were formerly a celebrated locality for this fine Butterfly. The places cited for its most recent capture are Epping, Bere Regis, Colchester, and Black Park. At Lyndhurst it occurred in abundance a few seasons ago, but it is not usually taken there. It has also appeared at intervals near Worcester, Tenterden, and in other districts.





## PLATE X.

No. 1.—The Purple Emperor Butterfly (*Apatura Iris*), the Male.

No. 2.—The Female of the Purple Emperor Butterfly.

No. 3.—The Under side of the Purple Emperor Butterfly.

Nos. 4 & 5.—Caterpillars of the Purple Emperor Butterfly.

No. 6.—The Chrysalis of the Purple Emperor Butterfly.

THE genus *Apatura* is distinguished by the thickness of the antennæ, or by their gradual thickening towards the club or knob at the tip, and by their being nearly straight, instead of slightly curved as in all the allied genera. The wings and body are robust. The hind-wings being slightly scalloped, elongated rather than rounded at the angle next the body, and having at the posterior angle an ocellated spot. It is, however, more distinct from neighbouring genera in the preparatory stages than in the perfect state. The Caterpillar is very peculiar, having somewhat the form of a slug, the likeness to which is much heightened by the two erect spines at the head, which resemble the retractile 'horns' of the snail family. The Chrysalis is suspended by the tail, and is much like the Caterpillar in general form, but is, of course, much shorter and thicker; and it is forked at the head like some of the pupæ in the genus *Hipparchia*. There is but one British species, the beautiful Purple Emperor.

*Apatura Iris* (the Purple Emperor, No. 1) is perhaps, on the whole, the most splendid of our native Butterflies. The beautiful purple gloss exhibited by the male insect, in certain lights, especially when flying downwards, being almost equal in brilliancy to that of some of the magnificent Butterflies of South America. When not seen in the proper light, this fine purple flush disappears, and the dark portion of the wings assumes a rich brown, like that of the female (No. 2), which is entirely devoid of the iridescent lustre which distinguishes the male. On the under side of the wings both sexes are nearly alike, and fully as attractive, though after a very distinct fashion, as on the upper surface. In the beautiful shades of white, gray, brown and orange, the under-side of *Apatura Iris* resembles that of *Limenitis Sibilla*, from which it is, however, distinguished by the purple-centered circle at the posterior angle of the hind-wings, and more especially by the large purple and orange ocellus in the fore-wings, the outline of which is distinguishable on the upper side.

The Caterpillar (Nos. 4 and 5) is of a soft apple-green, delicately varied with diagonal streaks of yellow, the head being tinted with pale lilac. It is to be sought in the month of May, when, in favourable situations, the fortunate Collector may find it feeding on the broad-leaved sallow. This Caterpillar was first discovered by Mr. Drury, the well known English Naturalist, in the following manner, as described by his brother naturalist, Moses Harris. "That ingenious Aurelian," as Mr. Drury is termed by his friend, while searching for Caterpillars, near Brentwood, in Essex, on the 26th of May, 1758, beat from off the Sallow some larvæ, which were entirely new to him, and which he presented to Mr. Moses Harris, as the person most likely to rear them successfully. In his curious book, Harris describes very minutely all their stages of development under his care, concluding by informing us, that on the 22nd of June, 1758, to his unspeakable pleasure, one of his Chrysalides

produced the Purple Emperor; and he proceeds to express his unbounded gratitude to that "ingenious gentleman," Mr. Drury, who had thus enabled him to discover "the Caterpillar of one of the finest flies in the universe, which had hitherto escaped the search of the most skilful and industrious Aurelians."

The Chrysalis (No. 6) is suspended by the tail, and in colour differs but little from that of the Caterpillar.

The capture of the perfect insect, which appears towards the end of June, or in July, is difficult, on account of its elevated flight, which it delights to take in the neighbourhood of lofty oaks, over the tops of which it skims with a power and rapidity, that seem at first to place it quite out of the reach of the Lepidopterist, even when armed with his very best appliances, such as a small light net at the extremity of a long, pliable rod, &c. Nevertheless, the male, a much bolder flier than the female, has been taken on the wing, in this manner. A more successful method, however, is to seek this entomological prize while at rest; when he is often to be found on the lower part of the trunks of large trees. A successful Collector informed me some years ago, that during an entomological ramble in the New Forest, he once sought shelter from an approaching storm under the branches of a spreading oak, and while there, two magnificent specimens of the Purple Emperor boldly came to share his shelter, and alighted on the trunk close to him. It is needless to add, that they both found their way into his collecting box. Gloomy weather, with occasional showers, should therefore be selected for the pursuit of the Purple Emperor, watching carefully the trunks of the trees, in favourable situations, whenever the sun becomes suddenly overcast.

The name of the genus, *Apatura*, which was given to it by Fabricius in 1807,\* and which should more properly have been *Apaturia*, is generally said to have been taken from one of the names of Aphrodite or Venus, in reference to the beauty of the insect. But I have a fancy that Fabricius had in view rather one of the names of Athena, indicating deceitfulness, in reference to the deceptive effect of the purple gloss, which entirely disappears in certain lights.

\* Previous to which date our species still remained the *Papilio Iris*, of Linnæus.



## PLATE XI.

No. 1.—The Painted Lady Butterfly (*Cynthia Cardui*).

No. 2.—The Painted Lady Butterfly, showing the under surface.

No. 3.—The Caterpillar of the Painted Lady Butterfly.

No. 4.—The Chrysalis of the Painted Lady Butterfly.

No. 5.—The Red Admiral Butterfly (*Vanessa Atalanta*).

No. 6.—The Under surface of the Red Admiral Butterfly.

No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Red Admiral Butterfly.

No. 8.—The Chrysalis of the Red Admiral Butterfly.

THE third Sub-Family of the *Nymphalidæ* is that of the *Vanessidi*, containing three tolerably distinct genera, all of which are included by some authors in the genus *Vanessa*. The present sub-divisions, into *Cynthia*, *Vanessa*, and *Grapta*, are founded upon pretty distinct characters. *Cynthia* has the club of the antennæ shorter and the thickening more abrupt than in any other of the group; and has, in the fringed margin of the anterior wings, only a slight and graduated projection near the front angle. In the genus *Vanessa* this projection becomes more marked, and decidedly abrupt. In the genus *Grapta* the fore-wings have two such projections, both much more marked than in *Vanessa*.

The genus *Cynthia* is distinguished, as above stated, by the abruptness of the clubs of the antennæ, and by the comparative evenness of the outline of the fringed margin of the anterior wings. It is farther distinguished by the character of the palpi, which are somewhat deflexed and beak-like. In the Caterpillar and Chrysalis it closely resembles the true *Vanessæ*; or, were it desirable to keep it separate from the *Vanessæ*, on account of its affinities with its exotic congeners in the genus *Cynthia*, then, one would almost feel disposed to place *V. Atalanta* also in the genus *Cynthia*, as it only differs from it anatomically in the slightly greater angulation of the projection of the fore-wings, and in the somewhat more gradual formation of the clubs of the antennæ, which appear rather specific than generic differences. *V. Atalanta* is, moreover, as clearly separated from the *Vanessæ* as *C. Cardui* is, by the entire absence of the tail-like projection of the hind-wings, which distinguishes all the typical *Vanessæ*. In order to exhibit the affinity of this species with *Cardui*, I have placed the representation of each on the same Plate, instead of grouping *V. Atalanta* with others of the genus *Vanessa*, to which it is made to belong.

*Cynthia Cardui* (the Painted Lady, No. 1). This species is remarkable for the irregularity of its appearance; being seen in some seasons in tolerable abundance, especially in the metropolitan counties, while at other times, for many consecutive years, scarcely a single specimen is to be found by the most persevering collectors. On the Continent its appearance seems to be equally capricious. In the *Annales des Sciences Naturelles* for 1828, as quoted by Mr. Westwood, an account is given of an extraordinary swarm which was noticed in the preceding *May* (the usual time of the appearance of this insect being August), the extent of which was so prodigious that it occupied several hours in passing over the place where it was observed. Similar swarms of the Common White Butterfly (*Pieris Brassicæ*), and also of some other species, have been observed at different periods. I recollect the cliffs between Margate and Broadstairs being completely covered with a swarm of the last-named species, some few years ago. I observed them first in the morning, no trace of them having existed the night before, and



the following day they were again dispersed. The markings of *Cynthia Cardui* are so like those of *V. Atalanta*, that an inexperienced collector might mistake it for a faded specimen of that species; they are, however, very distinct when closely examined, the reddish-orange marks on the right fore-wing having been compared to a map of England and Ireland, which, in some strongly marked specimens, they slightly resemble. The Caterpillar (No. 3) feeds on various plants of the Thistle tribe, and is represented upon a plant of *Cnicus lanceolatus* (the Spear Plum Thistle). Like the Caterpillar of *V. Atalanta*, it is solitary in its habits, and also draws up the leaves upon which it is feeding in a similar manner, with web-like threads. It is also found at the same season, July. The Chrysalis (No. 4) is suspended by the tail, and has the gold-like spots which distinguish all the Sub-Family *Vanessidi*. The generic name, *Cynthia*, appears to have been taken, after the arbitrary fashion adopted by Linnæus, from that of a pagan divinity, being one of those of the goddess Artemis, derived from the name of Mount Cynthus, in the Island of Delos, where she is said to have been born; the name Cynthus being sometimes given to her brother Apollo, from the same cause. The specific name, *Cardui*, refers to a species of Carduus, or Thistle, upon which the Caterpillar frequently feeds.

The genus *Vanessa*. The insects in this genus are rather remarkably distinguished by the hairy clothing of their eyes. They have the outline of the fringed border of the anterior wings rendered more or less irregular in form by one or more angular projections, and the hind-wings, except in the case of *V. Atalanta*, have a short tail-like projection, somewhat analogous to that we have seen distinguishing the *Papilionidæ*, though much less conspicuous, and which we shall find again in a more slender form in the genus *Thecla*. The anterior pair of legs are rudimental and unfitted for walking, as in the genus *Cynthia*. The Caterpillar is furnished with spines. The Chrysalides, which are very angular, exhibit the appearance of gold and silver spots, caused by a fluid which is seen through the transparent external membrane, imparting a metallic gloss to the yellow shell or skin over which it circulates. The name of this genus appears to have been adopted by Fabricius from Phanes, one of the appellations of Eros or Cupid, and would, therefore, be more correctly written *Phanessa* instead of *Vanessa*. It was possibly given in allusion to the beauty of most of the species; those which are found in the British Islands not ceding the palm to any of their exotic congeners.

*Vanessa Atalanta* (the Red Admiral, No. 5). This insect, which might be more conveniently classed as *Cynthia Atalanta* till the two groups have been thoroughly revised, is one of the handsomest, and at the same time, one of the commonest of our native Butterflies. The under side of the hind-wings (No. 6) is very richly marbled with deep brown, and exhibits some slight traces of the rudimental ocelli which distinguish the scarlet border on the upper surface. In *Cynthia Cardui*, however, these marks become more distinct on the under side than the upper, as may be observed on reference to the representation of that insect, showing the under side, at No. 2. This may be made the ground of separating *Atalanta* and *Cardui*, otherwise appearing in all respects so closely allied. It is said that the females of *V. Atalanta* have a small white speck on the red bar near the back of the anterior wings. The Caterpillar of the Red Admiral (No. 7) feeds on the common Stinging Nettle; and the perfect Butterfly appears in August. This fine species occurs throughout Europe, in the North of Africa, and in other distant localities, being a very widely dispersed species.



## PLATE XII.

No. 1.—The Peacock Butterfly (*Vanessa Io*).

No. 2.—The Peacock Butterfly, showing the under surface.

No. 3.—The Caterpillar of the Peacock Butterfly.

No. 4.—The Chrysalis of the Peacock Butterfly.

No. 5.—The Camberwell Beauty Butterfly (*Vanessa Antiopa*).

No. 6.—The Camberwell Beauty Butterfly, showing the under surface of the wings.

No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Camberwell Beauty Butterfly.

VANESSA IO (the Peacock Butterfly, No. 1) is the most beautiful of the species grouped together in the genus *Vanessa*, of which some authors consider it the type; but from most of which, as it appears to me, it will very probably be separated at no very distant period, when this and the allied genera shall be revised, with reference to all the exotic species. This beautiful Butterfly is extremely common, but its appearance does not extend farther North than the Frith of Forth, being but very sparingly seen even in the South of Scotland. On the under side, the wings (No. 2) exhibit in their dark and sober hues a singular contrast to the glowing colours of the upper surface, the magnificent ocelli of which, with their softly shaded irides, are so remarkable. The Caterpillar (No. 3) is gregarious, and groups of them may often be seen in July, forming a large black mass on a bed of nettles, visible at a considerable distance. It has been observed, that in all those species the eggs of which are laid in patches, gummed together, the Caterpillars, when hatched, are gregarious and continue together even when full grown. The transformations of this species formed the subject of one of those courses of minute and persevering observation which have made the name of Réaumur so celebrated among naturalists; the singular manner in which the Chrysalis attaches itself to the knot of web established by the Caterpillar before the skin of the Caterpillar is cast off, as described by that author, being one of the most curious exhibitions of instinct in the whole range of natural history. The perfect insect appears towards the middle or end of July, and as it settles upon a flower or on the gravel of a garden path, forms a most beautiful object. It frequently survives the winter, hybernating in some well-secluded shelter, where it remains in a dormant state till the following April, in the first sunny days of which it reappears, making our gardens gay before the season of flowers has scarcely commenced: the specimens which thus survive the winter are said to be almost invariably females.

*Vanessa Antiopa* (the Camberwell Beauty, No. 5). This is the largest of the British species of *Vanessa*, and the rarest; many seasons passing without the capture of a single specimen, though most Lepidopterists (now a pretty numerous class) are always on the look out for the capture of the coveted prize. I never saw it on the wing but once, on the 12th of September, in the year 1855, when, walking from Watford to St. Alban's, I was attracted by the flight of a large Butterfly which, the first time it passed me, I could not make out; but remaining quietly in the same place, it passed me again in a few minutes, having evidently a regular circuit of flight which occupied about that time, if not delayed by some unusual attraction. This time it settled in the middle of the road, at some distance from me, but I succeeded in approaching it closely enough to distinguish perfectly a remarkably fine and very large specimen of *V. Antiopa*. It rose as I approached, and having no net with me, I made a

sweep at it with my hat, but unsuccessfully. I waited for its return, which occurred again in about the same time, notwithstanding the alarm it must have received, but I was again unsuccessful, and, my companion becoming impatient, we pursued our journey, without renewing the attempt, which I have often regretted.

The Caterpillar, which is considerably larger than that of *V. Io*, is beautifully marked with red, at the base of the spines, as shown at No. 7. It feeds on the Willow, and is to be looked for in July. The perfect insect appears in August, the females often surviving the winter, and depositing their eggs in the following spring; in which case they reappear as early as April.

This fine insect has been found as far North as Ayrshire, but is a rarity in any locality except at intervals of eight or ten years, when it appears in some abundance. About eighty years ago it was so plentiful, after a long absence, that it received the name, among collectors, of the "Grand Surprise;" and its appearance at Camberwell, one season many years ago, caused it to be known as the "Camberwell Beauty,"—a name it still retains. The English specimens are said to differ from those of the Continent, in having the borders of the wings nearly white, instead of cream colour. But this observation may have been made on specimens long preserved in Collections, and probably faded to some extent, as the specimen which I saw alive, as described above, had the borders in question of a remarkably rich and deep cream colour.

This fine insect is the *Papilio Antiopa* of Linnæus, who appears to have adopted the specific name from that of a mythical personage, as in many other instances. The descriptive or otherwise characteristic denominations of more modern systems of classification appear to great advantage when compared with the arbitrary nomenclature of the infancy of the science, as exhibited in this and other instances.





## PLATE XIII.

No. 1.—The Great Tortoise-shell Butterfly (*Vanessa polychloros*).

No. 2.—The Great Tortoise-shell Butterfly, showing the under side.

No. 3.—An unusually small specimen of the Great Tortoise-shell Butterfly.

No. 4.—The Caterpillar of the Great Tortoise-shell Butterfly.

No. 5.—The Chrysalis of the Great Tortoise-shell Butterfly.

VANESSA POLYCHLOROS (the Great Tortoise-shell Butterfly, No. 1). This fine insect has all the characters well defined that distinguish the genus *Vanessa*; such as the sharp and conspicuous palpi, and the projecting angles of the wings. The Great Tortoise-shell is sometimes very abundant, more particularly round London; but in other seasons scarcely a specimen is to be found, especially towards the North. This fine insect is described as appearing in July, and those specimens which are occasionally seen in the early spring are generally considered to consist of such only as have survived the winter in a semidormant state, like those of the allied species, *V. urticae* and *V. Io*. This has been considered the more probable, as the spring specimens often present a worn and faded appearance. That some do survive the winter in the way supposed is certain, as that degree of longevity is a characteristic of the entire genus, and has not been observed as a conspicuous peculiarity in any other genus of British Butterflies. Last spring, however, I had an opportunity of observing the appearance of a number of beautifully perfect specimens of *V. polychloros*, evidently just issued from the Chrysalis, proving that a late brood occurs in favourable seasons, which remain in the Chrysalis till the following spring, emerging from the pupa case on the first sunny days in March or April. On the 29th of March, 1858, I noticed a remarkably fine specimen of *V. polychloros* expanding its wings in the morning sun on the gravel path in front of my study window. It was evidently quite fresh from the Chrysalis, its wings not having acquired that firmness of texture which a little more exposure to the sun soon imparted to them. I observed too that the colour was paler and more beautiful than in autumnal specimens; in fact of a slightly different tone, being decidedly more approaching to a pure orange; which is in fact rather a rich orange buff than the usual tawny brown; and the difference appears to be permanent, for many specimens appeared, and I afterwards remarked that those which had been some days on the wing still preserved that lighter and more delicate tone of colour. The dark spots, too, are of a deep ruddy brown rather than dusky black like those that have eclosed in the autumn. Indeed, at a hasty glance these spring specimens might be taken for a new species, or at all events a very distinct variety. Some Chrysalides which I collected in the previous autumn, when they were very abundant, eclosed in my butterfly vivarium about the same time that I observed the specimens in the garden; and among those which came out in confinement many were remarkably small as well as pale. One of these is represented at Figure 3.

The under side of *V. polychloros* (No. 2) forms a fine contrast in tone of colour and in its very different kind of markings to those of the upper surface. The fine waved streaking of dark brown and black, on the gray, ochreous, or darker brown ground is very striking; and the effect is heightened by a few light specks, especially the one on the middle of the dark part of the hind wing.

The Caterpillar (No. 4) is very handsome, and with its curiously branched spines exhibits the characters of

a true *Vanessa*. It feeds exclusively on Elm, and is scarcely ever found where those trees do not abound. In the Plate this Caterpillar has been inadvertently represented upon the nettle.

The Chrysalis (No. 5) resembles those of the other *Vanessæ* in its angularities, and the bright metallic spots with which it is decorated.

Several accidental varieties of this fine insect are occasionally met with, in which two or more of the dark spots are blended into one. These are sought with great avidity by the curious, and I have seen some very singular examples in different cabinets. Any collector rearing a great number from the Caterpillar state would be likely to meet with varieties of that kind in some of the specimens.

Reaumur, in his interesting *Mémoires*, has given some very curious illustrations of the transformations of this insect, which is more common in France than with us. In England it is said to be found chiefly in the southern half of the island; but Mr. Duncan—as quoted by Mr. Westwood—says it has been taken as far north as Dunkeld. Mr. Stainton gives Huddersfield and York among the more northerly districts in which it has been recently captured.



## PLATE XIV.

No. 1.—The Small Tortoise-shell Butterfly (*Vanessa Urticæ*).  
 No. 2.—The Under side of the Small Tortoise-shell Butterfly.  
 No. 3.—The Caterpillar of the Small Tortoise-shell Butterfly.  
 No. 4.—The Chrysalis of the Small Tortoise-shell Butterfly.

No. 5.—The Comma Butterfly (*Grapta C-album*).  
 No. 6.—The Under side of the Comma Butterfly.  
 No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Comma Butterfly.  
 No. 8.—The Chrysalis of the Comma Butterfly.

VANESSA URTICÆ (the Small Tortoise-shell, No. 1). This brightly-marked species is sometimes distinguished as the Nettle Tortoise-shell, in allusion to the plant which furnishes the food of the Caterpillar, and in contradistinction to *V. polychloros*, which in a similar manner is often termed the Elm Tortoise-shell. It is much more common than *V. polychloros*; indeed it may be said to be common everywhere. Its sparkling colours, red, white, and yellow, with tessellations of blue, make a charming appearance in our gardens as early as the first sunny days of February, and sometimes even earlier. Linnæus has called these beautiful insects on their first appearance at this early season, “deceptive heralds of the spring;” for on the recurrence of cold weather they again take to their retreats where they have passed the winter in a semidormant state; and are seen no more till the next burst of fine weather. In the south of Europe, however, they remain on the wing throughout the mild winter of that more genial climate. This insect is distributed in every part of the British Isles, even to the extreme north of Scotland, where it is popularly known as the Devil’s, or Witches’ Butterfly. The under side, shown at No. 2, slightly resembles the under side of *V. polychloros*; but the fore wings have a large space of a pale ochreous tone, by which they may be easily distinguished. This pretty insect varies considerably in its markings; specimens occurring sometimes in which the two upper patches of black at the front edge of the fore wings are joined while the two small round spots behind them are entirely absent. In this curious variety, the dark portion of the hind wings extend nearly to the edge, the light red band, and the dark border with the blue scallops being absorbed in it. There are also extremely small varieties, which are often more brightly coloured than the larger specimens. The Caterpillar, No. 3, feeds on the common nettle, and appears in the beginning of June, and again in August; the perfect insect appears in July and September; some of the last brood survive the winter, as stated above. The Chrysalis is represented at No. 4.

The genus *Grapta*. This genus contains only a single British species, separated from *Vanessa* principally on account of the deep indentation of the margins of the wings, and some slight anatomical distinctions in the Caterpillar. The Chrysalis exhibits deep indentations in its form, which accord in character with those of the perfect insect, and serve to distinguish it from those of the *Vanessæ*, which in other respects it resembles, and is suspended by the tail in a similar manner.

*Grapta C-album* (the Comma, No. 5). This pretty species is becoming much more scarce than formerly. Our elder Entomologists describe it as abundant near London, and many of our living collectors, as Mr. Stainton informs us, recollect taking it frequently, though it is now very rarely seen. The form of the wings, which is remarkable in this species, varies much in different specimens. In some the large concavity near the front of the

fringed margin of the fore wings is so deep as to form more than half a circle, while in others it is much less conspicuous. The specimen represented in the annexed Plate is a medium one. The under side (No. 6) presents (as in the closely allied genus *Vanessa*) an extraordinary contrast to the upper. It is beautifully marked and variegated with different shades of gray, olive, and black; exhibiting near the centre a peculiar white mark, as of a capital C traced with a delicate pencil in white paint, from which this pretty species takes its name. On the opposite wing this mark is necessarily curved in the opposite direction, which causes it to resemble the figure of a *comma*, from which the popular name the Comma Butterfly, or the White Comma, has arisen.

The Caterpillar (No. 7) presents one rather remarkable peculiarity, which distinguishes it from the Caterpillars of all the British species of *Vanessa*. This peculiarity consists in the colouring of the back, which is of a bright orange colour on the five segments next the head, and white on all the rest. The spines which issue from every segment except the one next the head, are of the same character as those of the larvæ of *V. Io*, *V. urticae*. The head, which is raised at the sides into two remarkable tubercles, is bristly, as are the spines. This pretty Caterpillar, which is not gregarious, feeds on various trees and herbaceous plants, among which the Currant appears to be preferred: but it is found on Elm, Honeysuckle, and Willow, and also on the Hop, the Nettle, &c.

The Chrysalis (No. 8) varies in colour from flesh-colour to brown, and it is ornamented when first formed by gold spots, like those of the *Vanessa*, which disappear as the skin becomes dry. This insect, according to Harris, remains in the Chrysalis state about fourteen days, and he states also that there are two broods each season, the later brood being of a paler colour than the earlier one, a peculiarity which accords with my own observations on the late broods of *V. polychloros*. This insect hibernates like *V. urticae*, specimens being seen occasionally on the very first fine days of early spring. Formerly it was said to be taken in all parts of England, and north of the Tweed as far as Fifeshire; but according to the latest entomological records, it is no longer found either near London, or in Scotland.





## PLATE XV.

No. 1.—The Silver-washed Fritillary (*Argynnis paphia*).

No. 2.—The Female of the Silver-washed Fritillary.

No. 3.—The Under side of the Silver-washed Fritillary.

No. 4.—The Caterpillar of the Silver-washed Fritillary

No. 5.—The Chrysalis of the Silver-washed Fritillary.

THE fourth sub-family of the *Papilionidæ* is that of the *Argynnidi*, containing two genera, *Argynnis* and *Militæa*.

The genus *Argynnis*. The insects assigned to this genus are distinguished by the short, compact, and rather spoon-like form of the club of the antennæ. The wings are ample, of a rich tawny colour, and marked with dark lines and spots, the lines upon the veins or nervures being often considerably thickened in the males. The fore wings have the margin either rounded or slightly concave; and the hind wings on the under side are marked with metallic patches or streaks, having the appearance of silver. The front pair of legs are rudimentary, and are very hairy, and without joint, in the males; while they are jointed, but nearly free from hairs, in the females. The eyes are large and naked, instead of being clothed with hairs, as in some of the *Vanessidi*. The Caterpillars are spiny; and nearly all the species feed on different kinds of the Violet, in woods. The Chrysalis is suspended by the tail, like those of the *Vanessidi*.

*Argynnis paphia* (the Silver-washed Fritillary, No. 1). This fine and very remarkable insect, which is the largest of British Fritillaries, is by no means generally common; but in favourable localities, it often appears in some abundance. During a walking tour in Cornwall in the year 1857, I was delighted with a sight of it in some plenty in several localities.

The male insect (No. 1) is of a much brighter colour than the female; and the four principal nervures nearest to the posterior edge of the fore wings are raised and thickened in a singular manner, as expressed in the representation.

The female (No. 2) is, as above stated, of a much less brilliant colour; and there is no thickening of the nervures of the anterior wings; the dark spots are, however, larger and more regularly formed, and the clubs at the extremities of the antennæ are often larger than in the male.

The under side (No. 3) exhibits the beautiful streaking of silvery lines across the hind wings, by which this species is distinguished.

The Caterpillar (No. 4) is very richly marked with yellow and brown stripes; and the spines nearest the head often project forward like horns, as shown in the representation. It feeds in preference on the common scentless Violet, *Viola canina*; and the perfect insect appears in July.

The Chrysalis (No. 5) is of a light grayish brown, sometimes with indistinct yellow spots along the back; and the tubercles exhibit the metallic effect of gold described in the *Vanessidi*.

Hermaphrodite specimens of this insect occur, in which the individuals have the wings of the male on one side and those of the female on the other. There are also some curious varieties, especially of the

female, in which the ground colour of the wings is nearly gray, or rather a brownish kind of slate colour, varied by a few marks nearly white. These specimens were thought to be the females of a distinct species, till a specimen was captured, in which the wings on one side were of the usual colour, while those on the other side were of the brownish slate colour above described.

This insect has become more rare than formerly. It is, however, still pretty generally distributed in the woods in the South. It has also been recently captured at Huddersfield, and in some plenty in the neighbourhoods of Scarborough and York. I saw this beautiful species for the first time on the Continent in the Forest of Fontainebleau, where, happening to be just in the season, I found it very abundant. The specimens then captured were precisely identical with specimens afterwards taken in England.



## PLATE XVI.

No. 1.—The Dark Green Fritillary Butterfly (*Argynnis Aglaia*).

No. 2.—The Dark Green Fritillary Butterfly (the Female).

No. 3.—The Dark Green Fritillary Butterfly (showing the under side.

No. 4.—The Caterpillar of the Dark Green Fritillary Butterfly.

No. 5.—The Chrysalis of the Dark Green Fritillary Butterfly.

ARGYNNIS AGLAIA (the Dark Green Fritillary) receives its popular name from the rich green tones which vary the colouring of the hind wings on the under side. In this green tinting of the under surface of the hind wings it resembles *Argynnis Paphia* (the Silver-washed Fritillary), but the silvery markings are of a very different character. Instead of being washy streaks they form distinct and sharply defined patches, symmetrically disposed between the veins, or nervures. These silvery markings, as they are generally described, have, in fact, more of a pearl-like than a metallic gloss, and might be very closely imitated in a drawing by the substance prepared from the scales of a peculiar fish, which is used in the manufacture of imitative pearl beads. The red-brown of the upper surface of the wings is much brighter in the males than the females, as in the last described genus. The males have also the veins at the back of the fore wings thickened as in *A. Paphia*, but much more slightly; and the under surface of the hind wings also exhibits a feature not found in the female insect; this consists in a row of eye-like spots between the two outer rows of pearly patches. The representation, No. 3, showing the under side, was drawn from a male specimen, as will be observed by the presence of the series of spots alluded to.

The female, showing the upper surface of the wings, is represented at No. 2, in which the cooler tone of the colouring is very conspicuous.

The Caterpillar (No. 4) appears at the end of May and June, and is generally found feeding on the Dog Violet (*Viola canina*).

The perfect insect quits the Chrysalis in July and August. It is common everywhere, especially on heaths and in woods. Among places cited for its recent capture in great abundance, Leicester and Brighton are especially recorded.

There are several very distinct varieties of this handsome insect; in the one formerly known as *Argynnis Carlotta*, some of the black markings on the upper surface of the wings are joined so as to produce a much more strongly marked appearance, and several of the pearly spots beneath are connected in a similar manner. Varieties of this description have occurred, in which the joining of the dark markings of the upper surface is so general that the wings present the appearance of being almost entirely of a deep brown colour, though in the hinder

pair the marks are generally much more separate and distinct. This variety has occurred near Ipswich and Birmingham. A very pale buff variety is also occasionally found, which generally has the spots and other markings of a somewhat darker tone of the same colour. This is a very elegant variety, and much sought by collectors. It is extremely rare.

In the pearl-marked species of the Fritillary Butterflies, the collector should always display some of his specimens with the under side uppermost, as being, in fact, more beautiful than the upper surface. If space, and the kind of cabinet permitted, it would be as well also to place at least one specimen sitting at rest, with the wings raised, in order to show one of the most usual natural positions of the insect. A careful drawing of the Caterpillar and Chrysalis might also accompany the specimens of the perfect insect, which would lend additional interest and completeness to the collection.





## PLATE XVII.

No. 1.—The High-brown Fritillary Butterfly (*Argynnis Adippe*).

No. 2.—The High-brown Fritillary Butterfly (showing the under side).

No. 3.—The Caterpillar of the High-brown Fritillary Butterfly.

No. 4.—The Queen of Spain Fritillary Butterfly (*Argynnis Lathonia*).

No. 5.—The Queen of Spain Fritillary Butterfly (showing the under side).

No. 6.—The Caterpillar of the Queen of Spain Fritillary Butterfly.

No. 7.—The Chrysalis of the Queen of Spain Fritillary Butterfly.

ARGYNNIS ADIPPE (the High-brown Fritillary) strongly resembles, at the first glance, the last described species, *A. Aglaia*, but a closer examination enables the observer to detect the more angular character of the black markings. The colour also is different, being of a more orange tawny tone, which is the same in both sexes; the female being, however, rather paler, and larger in size, while the male is distinguished by thickening of the three posterior veins of the front wings. On the under side (No. 2), it may be distinguished at once from *Aglaia* by the absence of the rich green from the hind wings, which are only varied with tones of buff and brown, and nearly alike in both sexes.

The Caterpillar (No. 3) is, when young, red underneath, but in its later stages assumes an olive green colour. It feeds on the Heartsease and Violet, on the foliage of which it should be sought in May and early in June.

The Chrysalis is reddish brown with silvery specks, and the perfect insect appears in June and July, in woods, and also on heaths. It is much less common than *A. Aglaia*, but has been taken recently in some abundance at Lyndhurst, at York, and in other northern districts, though it was formerly considered to be almost exclusively confined to the southern counties, where, in fact, it is still found more generally distributed than in the north. There are varieties, as in the preceding species, in which the black markings run into each other, giving the wings a darker appearance.

*Argynnis Lathonia* (the Queen of Spain Fritillary, No. 4) is by far the rarest of our large British Fritillaries, and is in some respects the handsomest, though far inferior in size to the three species previously described.

The males may be distinguished by the dilation of the posterior nervures of the front wings; in other respects the colouring and markings are alike, or very nearly so, in both sexes.

The under side (shown at No. 5) has the pearly patches more symmetrically distributed than in any of the other species, and of a more brilliant character, both as to their gloss and their more metallic appearance. In some Continental specimens which I have seen, these markings are enlarged so as to cover the whole of the surface of the hind wings, which thus assume the aspect of a burnished plate of silver, marked at intervals with dark streaks formed by the nervures.

The Caterpillar feeds on the Borage, and also on Heartsease and Violet. There are said to be two broods, one most probably appearing in April or early in May, the other in July.

The Chrysalis is dark brown, with one large metallic mark of a silvery colour, and several smaller specks of the same tone. The perfect insect appears early in June and again in August, but is very rare in England,

though so common on the Continent as to possess no value in the eyes of ordinary collectors. I recollect taking several specimens in a few minutes while walking up one of the steep portions of the road over the Mount Cenis by the side of the Diligence. According to Mr. Stainton, the places in England most recently cited as localities in which it has been captured, are Exeter, Colchester, Shoreham, Harlston, Lavenham, Eastbourn, Dover, Bristol, and Peterborough.

This beautiful insect should be sought in May or the beginning of June, and again in August. Its favourite haunts are at the borders of woods, on sunny banks, where if seen it may be easily captured, as it is so fond of basking in the sun when settled, that the collector may approach within a secure distance for the use of the net, without alarming it. Very few specimens of the Caterpillar have been taken in England, but perhaps they may be sought for with success if the proper season and proper situations be selected.



## PLATE XVIII.

No. 1.—The Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary Butterfly (*Argynnis Selene*).

No. 2.—The Under side of the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary Butterfly.

No. 3.—The Caterpillar of the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary Butterfly.

No. 4.—The Chrysalis of the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary Butterfly.

No. 5.—The Pearl-bordered Fritillary Butterfly (*Argynnis Euphrosyne*).

No. 6.—The Under side of the Pearl-bordered Fritillary Butterfly.

No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Pearl-bordered Fritillary Butterfly.

THE two species of *Argynnis* represented in this Plate form a very distinct section in the genus, being both considerably smaller than any of the other species. They were formerly placed in the genus *Melitaea*, as according in size and general appearance with the species still retained in that genus; but their metallic markings (entirely absent in the species still regarded as belonging to *Melitaea*) and other characteristic distinctions, have caused their being located in their present position.

*Argynnis Selene* (the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, No. 1). This species is common, though rather local. It is said by some entomologists to be double-brooded, being occasionally captured both in May and July, while Mr. Newman states that it appears fifteen days later than *A. Euphrosyne*, and continues to the end of July, after which it never re-appears. Mr. Dale, however, describes it as double-brooded, and states that the two broods differ, the second being always slightly different in colour to the first.

The hind wings are generally marked as shown at No. 2, but varieties occur in which the under side of the front wings is entirely pale buff, with the black marks very slight and delicate, and the hind wings of a greenish tone, with slender rays of the metallic character running down between the veins, beyond which are a few metallic spots.

The Caterpillar (No. 3) should be sought at the end of April or in May, when, in favourable situations, it will be found feeding upon the *Viola canina*, the common Dog Violet.

The perfect insect quits the Chrysalis (No. 4) at the end of May or early in June, but there may be, as stated, another and a later brood. It is most common in woods and thickets, especially in the South of England. It has been taken near Teignmouth in great numbers. It is also found in some of the more northern counties, and has been captured lately at Lyndhurst in some abundance.

Several varieties are occasionally found, and the species described in English cabinets as *Melitaea Dia*, is probably one of the varieties of this pretty insect. Mr. Stephens has described a singular variety in which the ground colour of the upper surface of the wings is nearly white.

*Argynnis Euphrosyne* (the Pearl-bordered Fritillary, No. 5) is generally larger than the last-described species, and of lighter colour. The distribution of the metallic markings on the under side of the hind wings (No. 6) is also different, though of similar character, being generally less distinct. These markings of the under side vary, however, very considerably.

The Caterpillar (No. 7) feeds on various kinds of Violet and Heartsease, and there are two broods in the season, the first being found in April and the second in July.

The perfect insect of the first brood generally leaves the Chrysalis in May, and the second in August. It is a very common species, being found in all parts of the country, even far towards the North of Scotland. Epping, Plymouth, Tenterden, and other places are mentioned as localities in which it has been recently taken in abundance.

There are varieties in which the dark marks on the upper side of the wings are nearly united, giving the whole surface a rich deep mottled brown appearance.

Considerable additional interest might be gained in forming a collection of the British Fritillaries, by the study, at the same time, of some of their foreign relatives, many of the exotic species being extremely beautiful. The study of foreign genera, at the same time with the British, also gives the student a better general idea of classification and clearer notions upon the scientific location of our native species; the foreign kinds frequently forming links which exhibit, in an instructive manner, the methods upon which the classification of Lepidopterous insects has been pursued.





## PLATE XIX.

No. 1.—The Glanville Fritillary Butterfly (*Melitæa Cinxia*).  
 No. 2.—The Under side of the Glanville Fritillary Butterfly.  
 No. 3.—The Caterpillar of the Glanville Fritillary Butterfly.  
 No. 4.—The Chrysalis of the Glanville Fritillary Butterfly.

No. 5.—The Heath Fritillary Butterfly (*Melitæa Athalia*).  
 No. 6.—The Under side of the Heath Fritillary Butterfly.  
 No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Heath Fritillary Butterfly.  
 No. 8.—The Chrysalis of the Heath Fritillary Butterfly.

THE genus *Melitæa*. The insects contained in this genus, according to the system I am following, were long since separated from the genus *Argynnis* by Continental entomologists, on account of the absence of the pearly or silvery patches from the under surface of the wings. It is but recently however that this arrangement has been followed in English collections, though such an arrangement, with other modifications in the classification of the Fritillaries, was suggested by Mr. Westwood in my former Work, published in 1841. Of the three species now assigned to the genus, the following are the chief characteristics. The antennæ are of moderate length, and have the club of a rather elongated form. The palpi are rather long, pointing upwards, and diverging at the points. The wings are tawny, with transverse black bands, and black streaks down the nervures. The continuous black bands may be cited as a character which distinguishes the species of small fritillaries still retained in the genus *Melitæa* from those transferred to *Argynnis*: the last having the bands broken up into detached marks or rounded spots. The insects now assigned to the genus *Melitæa* are distinguished moreover by the absence of the silvery marks as before stated, and by a greater degree of correspondence between the markings of the upper and nether surfaces. The front pair of legs are spurions, or unsuited to walking, in both sexes; those of the female having, however, jointed tarsi, while those of the male are without joint in this portion, and much more covered with hair. The larvæ have fleshy tubercles, furnished with spines. They feed on herbaceous plants, especially the common Plantain, or the Devil's-bit Scabious; and are, it is said, always hatched in the autumn, living through the winter in clusters, protected by a web, and attaining their full growth in early spring. The Chrysalis is suspended by the tail.

*Melitæa Cinxia* (the Glanville Fritillary, No. 1) is the rarest of the three British species, and is extremely local. Where it does occur, however, it is generally found rather abundantly, especially in some localities in the Isle of Wight. The Rev. J. F. Dawson, in a communication to the "Zoologist," has given a very interesting account of the habits of this pretty insect as he has observed them at Sandown, where, as it would appear from his account, they only frequent wild portions of the cliffs, in which cultivation does not threaten their haunts with unsuitable innovations. The eggs are generally deposited on the leaves of the Narrow-leaved Plantain in low and protected situations, where the young brood when hatched pass the winter beneath the protection of a family awning of silky webbing. In the spring, when the growing caterpillars disperse, they invariably seek the higher ground, as more sunny and better suited to the development of the Chrysalis; which is generally found suspended to the lower portions of stunted Plantains, or to the under side of an angular stone, where they are generally found in pairs. Last season it is stated that but few appeared in that locality, the writer informing us that they have insect foes which destroy many of the larvæ; and that even in

the perfect state, one of the hunting spiders, a large round-bodied species, preys upon this butterfly, lying in wait till the victim alights upon some low plant, and then darting upon it with unerring aim. I believe that human enemies, in the shape of indefatigable collectors, have also had a share in decreasing the supply ; for since the study of Entomology has become a fashionable pursuit, professional collectors have sprung up, who drive a pleasant and profitable trade—hurrying off to any newly discovered locality favourable to some rare species, and not leaving the spot while a single specimen is to be secured. The perfect butterfly appears in May, in favourable seasons ; but in cold springs the Caterpillars are still feeding at that time, and it is not seen till the middle of June. It is found also at Sandrock, and near Ryde in the Isle of Wight, and at several places in Hampshire and Devonshire ; also at Dover and Birch-Wood in Kent, and at Leamington in Warwickshire ; and even as far north as Yorkshire, where it has been taken in more than one locality.

*Melitæa Athalia* (the Heath Fritillary, No. 5). This insect is rare near London, but in other districts it is sometimes abundant ; and always much more so than the preceding species. It may be distinguished from *M. Cinxia* by the rather deeper ground colour of the upper surface of the wings, and by the broader but rather more irregular character of the transverse bands. On the under side (No. 6) it differs also by the much stronger colouring of the markings, by the narrower proportion of the exterior brown band of the hind wings, and by the absence of black and brown spots. The Caterpillar (No. 7) feeds upon the Plantains, and also upon the common Heath, as represented in the plate. There are many interesting varieties of this insect, especially the very pretty one supposed to be the *M. Pyronia* of Hübner. This variety has the upper surface of the front wings almost without markings, except a dark border, while the hind wings are entirely black, with a few tawny dots. On the under side, the light parts are nearly white, with brown markings ; the lower half of both pairs of wings being also nearly black, with veins and a few marks of obscure tawny. The *Papilio tessellata* of Petiver, is also considered to be a variety of this species. In this variety the upper surface of the wings is pale, and marked with extreme regularity ; the marks having a much more even and tessellated appearance than in the typical species. The fore wings are more fulvous underneath, and the hind wings entirely straw colour with black veins, having at the base three large yellow spots bordered with black ; also a broad band of deeper straw colour, bordered with black, running across the centre of both wings, &c. This elegant variety appears to have been pretty constant in Petiver's time, and was found each season in some plenty, in Caen Wood at Hampstead, whence it was formerly called the Hampstead Beauty.

Several places in the metropolitan counties, and also in Devonshire and Bedfordshire, are mentioned as localities in which *Melitæa Athalia* has been, recently taken, especially on heaths, and in open places in woods. It has also been taken at Tenterden in considerable numbers.



## PLATE XX.

No. 1.—The Greasy Fritillary Butterfly (*Melitæa Artemis*).  
 No. 2.—The Under side of the Greasy Fritillary Butterfly.  
 No. 3.—The Caterpillar of the Greasy Fritillary Butterfly.  
 No. 4.—The Chrysalis of the Greasy Fritillary Butterfly.  
 No. 5.—The Duke of Burgundy Fritillary Butterfly.

No. 6.—The Under side of the Duke of Burgundy Fritillary Butterfly.  
 No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Duke of Burgundy Fritillary Butterfly.  
 No. 8.—The Chrysalis of the Duke of Burgundy Fritillary Butterfly.

MELITÆA ARTEMIS (the Greasy Fritillary, No. 1) is perhaps the commonest of the genus, but is nevertheless very local. It is a very distinct species, two irregular bands of palish buff between the bands of black rendering it distinguishable at a glance from either *Cinxia* or *Athalia*. The under side (No. 2) is very similar to that of *Athalia*, but may be at once recognised by the paler character of all the markings, and the presence of a regular series of black spots circled with buff (in the broad band near the edge of the hind wings), which are absent in *Athalia*.

The Caterpillar (No. 3) feeds on the Devil's-bit Scabious, and on both the Plantains. According to the graphic account of our good old English Aurelian, Moses Harris, the Caterpillar, when full grown, draws together two or more blades of grass, fastening them at the top with a web, and suspending itself in the centre beneath; but as I have never seen the Caterpillar or Chrysalis when suspended in this manner, I have merely represented it as attached by the tail in the usual way.

The Chrysalis (No. 4) is of a pale flesh-colour, prettily ornamented with dark and regularly disposed spots. The Caterpillars, like those of *M. Cinxia*, are hatched in the autumn, and pass the winter in a similar manner. They become full grown in April, and the perfect butterfly appears in the following May or June. It is generally found in marshy places, and has hence been termed by some entomologists the Marsh Fritillary. Specimens of *M. Artemis* vary considerably in the intensity of their markings, some of the varieties having been mistaken for *M. Cinxia*. Near Brighton, and also near Bristol, this species has been recently taken in great abundance; and Carlisle, Charnwood Forest, and Weston-super-Mare are also cited by Mr. Stainton as localities in which it is often captured, as well as York, Winchester, and Worcester. *Melitæa Dia*, a closely allied species, was formerly found in our English catalogues as a native species, on the strength of specimens taken at Sutton Park, near Birmingham, and at Alderly in Cheshire, but it is now omitted. It is the *Argynnis Dia* of Hübner and Ochsenheimer.

The third family of Butterflies is that termed the *Erycinidæ*, represented in British Collections by a solitary European species, *Nemeobius Lucina*. In this family the males have only four perfect feet, like those of the *Argynnidi*, but the females have all six feet perfect. The Caterpillars are oniseiform, like those of the *Lycanidæ*, to which family, therefore, this genus, in its present position, forms an appropriate link.

The genus *Nemeobius* has the antennæ slender and the club short; the wings are tawny; the fore-wings with the costa and hind margins straight, and the apex hardly rounded. The male, as above stated, having only

four legs fitted for walking, and the female six. The Caterpillar is oniseiform, or woodlouse-shaped. The Chrysalis is attached by the tail, and also secured by a loop round the middle.

*Nemeobius Lucina* (the Duke of Burgundy Fritillary, No. 5) is the *Hamearis Lucina* of Hübner, but Mr. Stephens's name *Nemeobius* will be preferred, in consequence of the new and more appropriate location of the insect in its present position by that accomplished entomologist. Mr. Curtis has quoted the following interesting description of the transformation of this pretty little Butterfly from the elaborate and accurate work of Hübner :—"The eggs are found solitary, or in pairs, on the under surface of the leaves of *Primula veris*, and *elatior* at the beginning of summer ; they are almost globular, smooth, shining, and pale yellowish green. The Caterpillar feeds on these plants : its head is roundish, heart-shaped, smooth, shining, and bright ferruginous, black only on the mouth and about the eyes : its body is almost oval, but long, depressed, and set with rows of bristly warts ; the other parts are set with feathery hairs ; on the back, at least from the fourth joint to the tail, there is a black dot on each joint, and on the sides similar but less distinct spots, the colour is pale olive orange ; its feet are rusty brown ; the spiraculæ black ; the claws and belly whitish. It moves very slowly, rolls itself up when disturbed, and remains in that state a long time. Soon after the middle of summer it becomes a pupa, not only fastening its body by the apex, but also by spinning a cord across its middle ; in this state it remains until the end of the following spring." Hübner, who reared it from the egg, says also that the Caterpillar throws off five skins before it becomes a pupa, and its appearance, at different ages, varies considerably. The larva from which he made his drawing, and from which my representation (No. 5) is taken, he found on a *Primula* in his own garden. This pretty insect is not uncommon in the south of England, but more rare in the north. At Halton in Buckinghamshire it has recently appeared in great numbers ; and Brighton, Oxford, Plymouth, Winchester, and Dursley in Gloucestershire are cited as localities in which it is not infrequent ; while even at York and Lyndhurst, in the north, persevering collectors have succeeded in taking it in some plenty.





## PLATE XXI.

No. 1.—The Brown Hair-streak Butterfly (*Thecla Betula*).  
 No. 2.—The Female of the Brown Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 3.—The underside of the Brown Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 4.—The Caterpillar of the Brown Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 5.—The Chrysalis of the Brown Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 6.—The Dark Hair-streak Butterfly (*Thecla Pruni*).  
 No. 7.—The Female of the Dark Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 8.—The underside of the Dark Hair-streak Butterfly.

No. 9.—The Caterpillar of the Dark Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 10.—The Chrysalis of the Dark Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 11.—The Black Hair-streak Butterfly (*Thecla W. album*).  
 No. 12.—The Female of the Black Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 13.—The underside of the Black Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 14.—The Caterpillar of the Black Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 15.—The Chrysalis of the Black Hair-streak Butterfly.

THE fourth family of the *Rhopalocera*, or Diurnal Lepidoptera, is that of the *Lycaenidae*, containing three genera and twenty-one species, being above a fourth of the total number of British Butterflies. In this family the perfect insects of both sexes have six perfect legs fitted for walking. The larvæ are short and onisciform. The Chrysalis is fastened by the tail, and also secured by a thread round the middle. The insects are generally much smaller than in the preceding families.

The genus *Thecla*. The insects comprised in this genus present very marked characteristics, and group very homogeneously together. The hind wings have nearly always a narrow tail. The upper surface of the wings is generally of deep brown, with or without a patch or patches of orange; the underside is often opaque gray, varied with delicate light streaks, from which they are called the hair-streaks, or with orange borders dotted with black. The Caterpillars and Chrysalides of all the species accord with the characters assigned to the family.

*Thecla Betula* (the Brown Hair-Streak, Nos. 1 to 5) is the largest of the genus. The male (No. 1) is smaller than the female, and the uniform deep brown of the upper surface of the wings is only varied by a somewhat paler mark adjoining the short transverse black line in the centre of the anterior wings; while the female (No. 2), which is much larger, is distinguished by a broad orange patch in the same position as the small pale mark in the male. The underside (No. 3) is the same in both sexes. The Caterpillar (No. 4) feeds upon the foliage of the Birch and Blackthorn, &c., towards the end of June and beginning of July; the perfect insect appearing in August. It frequents hedgerows, particularly in the southern counties. It is however a local, though far from a rare species. It has been recently taken at Blandford, Epping, Brighton, Lyndhurst, Peterborough, Teignmouth, Worcester, and other places.

*Thecla Pruni* (the Dark Hair-Streak, Nos. 6 to 10) is smaller than the preceding, and the male is distinguished by an orange border on the hind wings. The female (No. 1) has an additional orange band near the edge of the front wings. The under side (No. 7) has the orange border, with dots, above alluded to, and a narrow band or rather STREAK of white. The Caterpillar (No. 9) feeds on the foliage of the Plum in May, and the perfect insect appears in July. The Chrysalis (No. 10) is marked with two patches of white, as shown in the illustration. This is, comparatively speaking, a new British species, not having been noticed, and *Thecla W. album*, having

been described as *T. Pruni*, before Mr. F. Stephens detected the error in 1827; previous to that time it had evidently been confused with the other species from which however it is very distinct. At Monk's Wood, and at Overton Wood, Herts, it is sometimes taken in abundance, but in other localities it is extremely rare.

*Thecla W. album* (the Black Hair-Streak, sometimes called the W. Hair-Streak, Nos. 11 to 14). This pretty species has the upper surface of the wings entirely of a deep full brown, with the exception of a small pale speck in the front wings of the male. On the underside (No. 13) the White streak forms a strong zigzag towards the posterior angle of the hind wings, from which the specific name is derived. The Caterpillar (No. 14) feeds on the Elm and Blackthorn towards the end of May or beginning of June, and the perfect insect appears in July. This insect, as above remarked, was confused with *T. Pruni* previous to the remarks of Mr. Stephens on this genus; Villars and other entomologists having described the two species as identical. Previous to its discovery by Mr. Stephens in great abundance, at Ripley, in 1826, where he captured two hundred specimens without moving from the spot where he first noticed them, the insect was considered rare. Its appearance there in such vast numbers in that season is one of the curious entomological facts not easily accounted for, and like the swarm of *Vanessa Antiopa* at Camberwell, and the occasional swarms of *Pieris Brassicae*, it still puzzles our entomologists. It has been recently taken at Brighton, Epping, Peterborough, York, and other places, but sparingly.



## PLATE XXII.

No. 1.—The Purple Hair-streak Butterfly (*Thecla Quercus*).  
 No. 2.—The Female of the Purple Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 3.—The Under side of the Purple Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 4.—The Caterpillar of the Purple Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 5.—The Chrysalis of the Purple Hair-streak Butterfly.

No. 6.—The Green Hair-streak Butterfly (*Thecla Rubi*).  
 No. 7.—The Female of the Green Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 8.—The Under side of the Green Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 9.—The Caterpillar of the Green Hair-streak Butterfly.  
 No. 10.—The Chrysalis of the Green Hair-streak Butterfly.

*THECLA QUERCUS* (the Purple Hair-streak). This species is by far the handsomest of the British *Theclas*. It is also a very interesting species, as exhibiting most strikingly a peculiarity that distinguishes this genus. This peculiarity consists in the characteristic markings of the females, which, contrary to those of most other genera, are more conspicuous and brighter than those of the male. In *Thecla Betule* (Plate xxi.), we have seen that the female is distinguished by a fine patch of orange on the anterior wings, which is not found on those of the male. In *Thecla Pruni* the female has a border of orange on the fore wings, while those of the male are entirely brown. In the species now under description, the markings of the female are still more conspicuously different from those of the male—and of much greater comparative brightness, as they consist of large patches of the brightest metallic azure, while the wings of the males are of unvarying dusky purple, verging towards brown. The bright metallic blue resembles that which forms the ground colour of the wings of the male “Purple Emperor;” the female of which species has the ground colour of the wings of dusky brown—being, in fact, much less brilliant in its colouring than the male; and this and other similar instances led our English entomologists to conclude that the most dusky toned of the sexes in *Thecla Quercus* was necessarily the female. This supposition has been now satisfactorily disproved, as the individuals with the wings brightly blotched with azure have been observed in the act of depositing their eggs. There are also distinctions in the form of the anterior feet of the two sexes, analogous to those of some preceding families, which also serve to prove that the largest and most brightly coloured individuals in this genus are invariably the females. The character of the feet in the genus *Thecla* was first noticed by Dr. Horsfield, in his description of some of the magnificent *Theclas* of the island of Java. The male is represented at No. 1, the female at No. 2, and the under side at No. 3. The Caterpillar (No. 4) feeds upon the foliage of the Oak in May and June, and sometimes burrows in the ground at the time of its change to the Chrysalis state, though it is most frequently found attached to a branch or the under side of a leaf, by a silken web. Réaumur gives a most interesting and a detailed account of the manner in which the Caterpillars of this genus attach the web round the body, which secures them during the Chrysalis state. The perfect insect appears in July.

It is pretty generally dispersed, and plentiful in the Southern counties, and is also found in several localities in the North; but is very rare in Scotland. It has been recently taken in great abundance at Brighton, Epping, Exeter, Tenterden, and other places.

*Thecla Rubi* (the Green Hair-streak). This is the least *Thecla*-like of any of the British species, being

nearly without the elongation of a portion of the hind wings, which is one of the chief characteristics of the genus. In other respects, however, especially in the Caterpillar and Chrysalis stages, it closely resembles its congeners. It is one of the earliest species, being often found in May. The male, the female, and a specimen showing the under side of the wings, are figured at Nos. 6, 7, and 8.

The Caterpillar (No. 9) feeds on the common Bramble, and also on Papilionaceous, or Pea-flowered, plants. It may be found in May or June, and again in August. The autumnal brood remain in the Chrysalis state during the winter, Butterflies appearing in the following May. The perfect insects resulting from the spring brood of Caterpillars, appear about the beginning of August.

It is very generally distributed, and rather common—being found in some abundance in most of the English counties and in the south of Scotland, but rarely further North.

Mr. Stephens describes a variety in which the white dots on the under side are much more conspicuous; and also one in which the anterior wings of the female have a pale whitish spot near the centre of the anterior wings. It has been recently taken at Teignmouth in great numbers.

Two other species—*Thecla Spini* and *Thecla Ilcis*—were formerly considered British by some collectors, but they are both omitted in recent catalogues.





## PLATE XXIII.

- No. 1.—The Copper Butterfly (*Chrysophanus Phlaeas*).
- No. 2.—The Copper Butterfly, showing the Under side.
- No. 3.—The Caterpillar of the Copper Butterfly.
- No. 4.—The Chrysalis of the Copper Butterfly.
- No. 5.—The Dark Under-winged Copper Butterfly (*Chrysophanus Hippothoë*).
- No. 6.—The Female of the Dark Under-winged Copper Butterfly.
- No. 7.—The Dark Under-winged Copper Butterfly, showing the Under side.

- No. 8.—The Purple-edged Copper Butterfly (*Chrysophanus Chryseis*).
- No. 9.—The Female of the Purple-edged Copper Butterfly.
- No. 10.—The Purple-edged Copper Butterfly, showing the Underside.
- No. 11.—The Caterpillar of the Scarce Copper Butterfly. (The Butterfly in Plate xxiv.)
- No. 12.—The Chrysalis of the Scarce Copper Butterfly. (The Butterfly in Plate xxiv.)

The genus *Chrysophanus*, which follows *Thecla* in the beautiful family of *Lycaonidae*, is so distinct from its predecessor in many respects, that it would seem almost to mark the commencement of a new family. The *Theclas*, so peculiar in regard to the superior brightness of the colouring of the females, and also in the tail-like appendage to the hind wings which is always present in good typical species, which seem to distinguish them as a separate family, might be denominated the *Theclidae*; while the genus *Chrysophanus*, along with *Polyommatus*, might be formed into a separate family by Swainson's title of the *Polyommatidae*, as both genera exhibit the numerous eye-like ringed spots on the under surface of the wings, to which the descriptive generic term *Polyommatus* is applied. It is true that Swainson's *Polyommatidae* included the *Theclas*, which might however be separated, reserving the family title only for the two genera to which its meaning applies. This, however, is a mere suggestion to the collector to incite him to consider any system of classification with regard to its merits, and not receive it without examination; for I am bound in this volume to the system now adopted in the British Museum, as announced in my introduction. The chief character of the genus *Chrysophanus* may be described as follows: First, the rich gold-like colouring of the wings of the males, which has given rise to the name *Chrysophanus*, compounded of two Greek words, χρυσός (gold), and φαίνω (to appear). The metallic golden hue is however of a deep red tone, which has suggested to our native collectors the popular name of "Coppers." Secondly, the slight pointing of the hind wings, which in the first species, *Phlaeas*, extends into a short tail, which makes that species form a convenient gradation from the genus *Thecla* to the present genus. Thirdly, the wings of the males are the most brilliantly coloured, those of the females being of more dusky tone, and always varied by black spots which (with the exception of the very distinct species *C. Phlaeas*) never occur in those of the males. Fourthly, the Caterpillars, though more or less onisciform, are longer and not so much flattened as in the genera *Thecla* and *Polyommatus*. There are several other minor anatomical characters connected with the knobs of the antennæ, the form of the palpi, and the veining of the wings, the detailed description of which would be out of place in a strictly popular work.

*Chrysophanus Phlaeas* (the Copper, No. 1). This pretty species is common in all parts of the country. There is no difference in the markings of the two sexes in this species, though they are so distinct in the others of the genus; the hind wings have also short tails resembling those of the *Theclas*, as stated above.

The Caterpillar (No. 3) is green, with a red stripe on each side. It feeds upon the common Sorrel, *Rumex acetosa*; and there are most probably several broods, as the perfect insect appears in April, June, and August.

The Chrysalis (No. 4) is found attached to the stem of the Sorrel. This pretty Butterfly is common everywhere, especially on heaths and commons; where, being a pugnacious insect, it is observed giving battle to intruders upon its domain, often engaging in combat with some of the largest of the Butterfly tribe. There are several striking varieties of this pretty species. The one in which the copper border of the hind wings is wanting, is perhaps the commonest. In another variety, the copper colour on both the surfaces of the wings is replaced by milky white, leaving the dark spots. Another has the deep copper colour redneed to a pale orange, and the black spots and black portions of the hind wings are white. These varieties are more or less rare, and, as I am informed by Mr. Bond (whose well known collection of British *Lepidoptera* is one of the finest in the country), such varieties are in most instances confined to particular districts, in each of which not more than one of the varieties is found.

*Chrysophanus Hippothoë* (the Dark Under-winged Copper, Nos. 5 to 7). This species is omitted in many Catalogues of native *Lepidoptera*, the grounds for supposing it a British insect being considered doubtful. "The best-known 'British' specimen," writes Mr. Westwood, "was obtained from an old collection made in Kent, which was known among collectors as the 'Kentish Cabinet.'" Some have supposed the species identical with *C. dispar*; but a comparison with the figures will sufficiently prove their distinctness. The true *Hippothoë* of the Continent is invariably much smaller than our *C. dispar*, and is of lighter colour in the centre of the wings, shading to deep purplish on the edges; while in *C. dispar* (in the males) the intensity of colour is the same all over the upper surface of both pairs of wings.

*Chrysophanus Chryseis* (the Purple-edged Copper, Nos. 8 to 10). This species has also become of extreme rarity, though formerly taken near Epping, from whence Dr. Leach is said by Mr. Stephens to have received fresh specimens during several successive seasons. It was also taken at Ashdown Forest, Sussex. On the Continent both this and the last species are plentiful, in marshy places in some districts, where they appear towards the close of summer.



## PLATE XXIV.

No. 1.—The Scarce Copper Butterfly (*Chrysophanus Virgaureæ*).

No. 2.—The Female of the Scarce Copper Butterfly.

No. 3.—The Scarce Copper Butterfly, showing the Under side.

No. 4.—The Large Copper Butterfly (*Chrysophanus dispar*).

No. 5.—The Female of the Large Copper Butterfly.

No. 6.—The Large Copper Butterfly, showing the Under side.

No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Large Copper Butterfly.

No. 8.—The Chrysalis of the Large Copper Butterfly.

(The Caterpillar and Chrysalis of the Scarce Copper Butterfly are represented in Plate xxiii. at Nos. 11 and 12.)

CHRYSOPIANUS VIRGAUREÆ (the Scarce Copper, Nos. 1 to 3). This species is the first of the true *Chrysophani*. The rich copper-coloured wings of the male (No. 1), are free from black spots, except close to the border of the hind wings; those of the female (No. 2), having numerous large black spots. The Caterpillar (No. 11, Plate xxiii.) is onisciform, but not flattened; and the Chrysalis (No. 12, Plate xxiii.) is secured to a leaf or stem by a knob of web at the tail, and a girth at the middle. The under side (No. 3), is less distinctly marked than any of the old species by the ocellated spots which distinguish the genus.

The Caterpillar feeds on the Golden-rod (*Solidago Virgaureæ*). This species has not been recently taken, and is considered by some to be doubtful as British, notwithstanding the existence of several specimens in old cabinets. It is possible that it may have become extinct, as we have seen *C. dispar* entirely disappear within the last few years.

*Chrysophanus dispar* (the Large Copper, Nos. 4 to 8). This beautiful and conspicuous insect is, as far as we know at present, peculiar to England, no specimen having ever been as yet taken on the continent of Europe, or in any other quarter of the world. M. Boisduval, however, thinks it is a large local variety of the Continental *C. Hippothoë*. However this may be, there has been so great a demand for this beautiful insect since the appearance of the figure of it in Donovan's work, that the species is supposed to be extirpated—recently captured specimens having been sold as high as £4 the pair. The male (No. 4) is rather smaller than the female, but of much more brilliant colour. The female (No. 5) is marked with large black spots, and the hind wings are nearly black, with a copper-coloured border. There is a female variety in which the border of black on the front wings is much narrower than in the specimen figured, and in which the copper-coloured border of the hind wings is much more dusky. The under side (No. 6) has the ocellated spots much more strongly and clearly marked than any other species of the genus, and is the same in both sexes.

The Caterpillar (No. 7), which feeds on the Great Water Dock (*Rumex aquaticus*), is pale green, thickly powdered with white specks, and appears in June.

The Chrysalis (No. 8) is at first green, then pale ash coloured, and eventually (in some specimens) deep brown.

The perfect insect appears in July and August, and was formerly abundant in the Fenny districts of Huntingdon and Cambridge shires; and it has been taken at Benacre in Suffolk, and Bardolph Fen in Norfolk.

So active has been the pursuit of this beautiful insect during the last twenty years, that, as above stated, it is now sought for in vain in the haunts but recently so brilliant with its metallic hues towards the close of each summer. It is thought, however, by some entomologists that it may reappear in some favourable season, as insects occasionally do, in a manner which has not been satisfactorily accounted for. It is possible, by a provision of nature, that a certain reserve of eggs remains unhatched for long epochs, to guard against the extinction of species by unfavourable seasons; but whether from this or other causes, it is certain that species *do* occasionally disappear for a time, to be found again at some subsequent period. It has been noticed by Lacordaire that in common species of *Lepidoptera*, a certain portion of the eggs frequently remains unhatched the first season, which, so far from being barren, as generally supposed, produced Caterpillars in the following year—and therefore it is possible that in some cases the vital principle may remain dormant for longer periods.

Mr. Bond, who has frequently chased the *C. dispar* on the wing in the Fens of Cambridge and Huntingdon, says, "It is difficult to capture, seldom affording an opportunity for a second stroke of the net if the first have been unsuccessful." This, however, is of little consequence to young collectors, as matters stand; for it seems they are not likely again to have an opportunity of exerting their skill in the capture of this coveted prize of the British Lepidopterist.





## PLATE XXV.

- No. 1.—The Azure Blue Butterfly (*Polyommatus Argiolus*).
- No. 2.—The Female of the Azure Blue Butterfly.
- No. 3.—The Azure Blue Butterfly, showing the Under side.
- No. 4.—The Small Blue Butterfly (*Polyommatus Alus*).
- No. 5.—The Female of the Small Blue Butterfly.
- No. 6.—The Small Blue Butterfly, showing the Under side.

- No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Small Blue Butterfly.
- No. 8.—The Chrysalis of the Small Blue Butterfly.
- No. 9.—The Mazarine Blue Butterfly (*Polyommatus Acis*).
- No. 10.—The Female of the Mazarine Blue Butterfly.
- No. 11.—The Mazarine Blue Butterfly, showing the Under side.

THE genus *Polyommatus*. This genus is principally distinguished from *Chrysophanus* by the bright blue colour of the upper surface of the wings of the males. The females are generally brown, or at all events of a duller colour than the males, and in a few species both sexes have the upper surface of the wings brown. The under sides of the wings closely resemble those of the insects assigned to the genus *Chrysophanus*, presenting, however, certain differences to be described in speaking of the respective species.

The Caterpillars are oniseiform, the head and feet very small, and scarcely observable without minute examination; they are generally yellowish-green, variegated by markings of red, brown, or yellow. They feed generally on the foliage of Papilionaceous, and other low growing plants; that of *P. Argiolus*, however, feeds upon the Holly, preferring the flowers. The Chrysalis is generally naked and attached to a branch of the plant on which the Caterpillar has fed; but in some cases the Caterpillars burrow in the earth to undergo their transformation. This genus has representatives not only in all parts of Europe, but in North and South Africa, the East Indies, and North America, while but very few of the species are known in South America.

*Polyommatus Argiolus* (the Azure Blue, No. 1). This is a very delicate and beautiful little Butterfly. The azure of the upper surface is of a soft and pleasing tone of light blue, and the under side a most delicate pale pearly gray, with the usual ocelli more slightly, but yet distinctly marked. The female differs in size, not as in the genus *Chrysophanus* from being larger than the male, but on the contrary smaller. In addition to the smaller size, the female may be at once distinguished by the more dusky colour, and by the deep black border of the anterior wings, and the dotted border of the hinder pair.

The Caterpillar is described by Ochsenheimer as being of yellowish-green, with a double line along the back. It feeds on the flowers of Holly, and also it is said on those of the Ivy. The later brood probably do, as the Holly is out of bloom when they appear; some entomologists, however, assert that there is only one brood of this pretty species, though specimens of the perfect insect are taken as early as April, and as late as August.

The Chrysalis is brown, with a deep dorsal line.

The Butterfly is very distinct in its habits, most of its congeners being generally found in gardens and

plantations where Holly abounds. It is rather local ; but very widely dispersed, and in some places plentiful, being found quite in the North of England, but not in Scotland.

*Polyommatus Alsus* (the Small Blue, No. 4). This is the smallest of our native Butterflies. Though termed by collectors one of the "Blues," the upper surface of the wings of both sexes are brown ; those of the male, however, having a flush of blue near the base. The under-side resembles that of the other *Polyommata*. The Caterpillar of this species (No. 7) feeds upon the Alpine Milk Vetch (*Astragalus Cicer*), the Chrysalis being attached to a stem of the same plant. The Butterfly appears in May, and again in July and August. It is most plentiful in chalk and limestone districts, but is often found in some abundance in other localities.

*Polyommatus Acis* (the Mazarine-Blue, No. 9). This handsome insect is conspicuously different from the other species in its deep full blue, which has a satin-like gloss that gives it great brilliancy. The upper surface of the wings of the female are dark brown, with only a light purple flush towards the base.

The Caterpillar is unknown.

This is a rare species ; but it is in some seasons taken in some plenty in chalky districts. It appears in May and June, and again in August, being double brooded. Mr. Newman states that it was formerly plentiful in Herefordshire, and supposes it to be still plentiful there ; but Mr. Allis writes to Mr. Stainton that he knows of no capture within the last seven years.



## PLATE XXVI.

No. 1.—The Large Blue Butterfly (*Polyommatus Arion*).

No. 2.—The Female of the Large Blue Butterfly.

No. 3.—The Large Blue Butterfly, showing the Under side.

No. 4.—The Chalk-hill Blue Butterfly.

No. 5.—The Female of the Chalk-hill Blue Butterfly.

No. 6.—The Chalk-hill Blue Butterfly, showing the Under side.

No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Chalk-hill Blue Butterfly.

No. 8.—The Chrysalis of the Chalk-hill Blue Butterfly.

POLYOMMATUS ARION (the Large Blue, No. 1). This is by far the largest and most splendid of the "Blues," as the blue section of the *Lycaenidae* are popularly termed by our collectors. It was at one time considered extremely rare, and by some scarcely believed to be a true British species. But several localities were subsequently discovered, in which it was found each season in some plenty, and the further discoveries of more recent lepidopterists have removed all doubts as to its being a native species. The spots on the wings of the male differ very considerably both in size and intensity of colour; the figure (No. 1) being taken from a specimen of medium strength in the marking. The female (No. 2) is generally rather larger than the male, and has the spots and dark borders broader, but less strong in colour; and the blue ground is of a duller tone. The under side (No. 3) has the ocellated spots larger, more regularly disposed, and more sharply defined than any other of the genus.

The Caterpillar is unknown.

The perfect insect appears in July, and the localities in which this entomological prize is said to have been taken are the following: the Mouse's Pasture, near Bedford; Dover Cliffs; Marlborough Downs; the hills near Bath; Broomham Common, Bedfordshire; near Winchester; and in one or two localities in North Wales. But the most celebrated locality, and one in which it has been recently taken in some plenty, is Barnewell Wold, near Oundle, Northamptonshire, in which place the Rev. W. Bree states in a communication to the "Zoologist" for 1852, that for several seasons previous to that year entomologists had visited the place, and captured many specimens, without seeming to diminish the annual supply. Since 1852, however, the continued pursuit appears to have grievously diminished the numbers of this beautiful insect in this locality; and we may therefore look forward to its becoming extinct in Barnewell Wold, as *C. dispar* has done in its once favourite fens of Cambridge and Huntingdon. In the year above named, however, the Rev. F. O. Morris informs us that on the 19th and 20th of July he took no less than eleven specimens.

*Polyommatus Corydon* (the Chalk-hill Blue, No. 4). This species is the next in size to *P. Arion*, and if it were not so much more common, would be considered nearly as beautiful. The silvery-blue of the male (No. 4), just flushed with a tint of straw-colour, produces a peculiarly delicate effect, which is heightened by the dark border, becoming nearly black at the base of the fringe. The wings of the female (No. 5) are of rich brown, with a sharp touch of white near the centre of each; and an ochreous border with black dots, both border and dots being much more conspicuous in the anterior wings than in the hinder pair.

The under side (No. 6) is not so symmetrically decorated with the usual ocelli as *P. Arion*, but it is, nevertheless, very distinctly and beautifully marked.

The Caterpillar (No. 7) is said to feed on several species of Vetch, and also on the wild Thyme (*Thymus Serpyllum*).

The perfect Butterfly appears in July, and is tolerably plentiful in the localities which it favours, principally in chalky districts. Some of the localities in which it has been found most regularly and abundantly are the following :—Dover, and many places along the southern coast ; Newport in the Isle of Wight ; Darent Wood, Kent ; several places in Suffolk, and Oxfordshire ; and abundantly near Newmarket, Cambridgeshire. It is also found in the Prestbury Hills, near Cheltenham, and in some localities in the neighbourhood of Winchester and near Great Bedwyn, Wiltshire. It must formerly have been much more abundant than now, as it often outnumbered many species in the Butterfly pictures, or rather stars, and other similar devices formed by the Spitalfields weavers in years gone by, with the specimens which they then captured for no other purpose. I purchased a small collection of Butterflies in a rough home-made cabinet a few years ago, in which one entire tray was filled with specimens of *P. Corydon*, among which were many rather striking varieties, but all in a bad condition. The male is sometimes so strongly suffused with brown, that it closely resembles the female, for which it might easily be mistaken by an inexperienced collector.



## PLATE XXVII.

No. 1.—The Clifton Blue Butterfly (*Polyommatus Adonis*.)

No. 2.—The Female of the Clifton Blue Butterfly.

No. 3.—The Clifton Blue Butterfly, showing the Under side.

No. 4.—The Common Blue Butterfly (*Polyommatus Alexis*.)

No. 5.—The Female of the Common Blue Butterfly.

No. 6.—The Common Blue Butterfly, showing the Under side.

No. 7.—An Hermaphrodite variety of the Common Blue Butterfly.

No. 8.—The Caterpillar of the Common Blue Butterfly.

No. 9.—The Chrysalis of the Common Blue Butterfly.

*POLYOMMATUS ADONIS* (the Clifton Blue Butterfly, No. 1). This insect, in so far as the colour is concerned, is the most beautiful of the “Blues.” The azure of the upper surface of both pairs of wings is of the most delicate silvery blue, the effect of which is at the same time heightened and refined by the snowy whiteness of the fringe.

The female (No. 2) has the upper surface of the wings of rich deep brown, but having towards the base a flush of rich violet blue, which is much brighter and more distinct in some specimens than in others. The upper surface of the wings of the female is also distinguished by borders of a lighter colour, containing a row of black spots; the borders of the hind wings being of a dusky orange colour, while those of the anterior wings are merely of a pale brown. It is rather difficult to distinguish the female of this species from that of *P. Corydon*, but *P. Corydon* has a black spot on the upper surface of the hind wings which is absent in *Adonis*. The female has also, occasionally, white specks in the centre of the fore wings.

The under side (No. 3) is very delicately enriched with the usual ocelli, and is distinguished from that of *P. Corydon* by the small and more delicate character of both ground colour and markings.

The Caterpillar, according to Freyer, is of the usual onisciform character; of dark green colour, with two rows of short yellow streaks on the back, and a yellow longitudinal stripe at each side. Ochsenheimer describes it as feeding on several species of pea-flowered plants.

The perfect insect appears in May and June, and is chiefly found in chalky districts. Dartford, in Kent, was formerly a favourite locality with London collectors for this beautiful insect. It has been recently taken at Brighton in great abundance.

*Polyommatus Alexis* (the Common Blue Butterfly, No. 4). This, though one of the most abundant of our native Butterflies, common in almost every district of the country, is a remarkably pretty insect; and though inferior to *P. Adonis* or *P. Arion*, has yet beauties of its own which seldom fail to attract even the uninitiated observer. The blue of the upper surface of the wings has a soft and rich lilac tinge, which is very pleasing; and the texture is of a silky character, which shows off the colour to the greatest advantage. The one represented at No. 4 is rather a dark specimen, the colour varying considerably in different individuals. The female (No. 5) has the upper surface of the wings brown, with ochreous borders spotted with black, and with a slight flush of blue towards the base. The under side represented at No. 6 is of the usual character, and like that of all the other species nearly alike in both sexes.



The Caterpillar (No. 8) feeds most commonly on Lucerne, in April, and again in September, there being two broods in the year. It also feeds on Clover and Bird's-foot Trefoil.

The Chrysalis (No. 9) is attached by a girth round the middle to a stem of the plant on which the Caterpillar has fed. There are many varieties of this pretty species, principally among the females. Some of these have the brown scales of the upper surface of the wings so thickly intermingled with blue ones that the blue colour almost preponderates, and the females have almost the appearance of very dark coloured males. But the most singular variety is that known as the Hermaphrodite (No. 8), which has the brown wings of the female on one side, and the azure wings of the male on the other. Other varieties were thought distinct species both by Lewin and Haworth, and Jermyn, and distinguished as *P. Hyacinthus*, *P. Thestylis*, and *P. Lacon*. Some of these varieties are so constant in some localities that one of our most accomplished entomologists (the late Mr. Stephens), even within the last few years was inclined to consider them distinct species. But recent observations of exotic Butterflies have shown such extraordinary aberrations in the usual specific characters, that such distinctions as those alluded to must cease to be regarded as anything more than variations produced by some local influence, such as soil, climate, food, or some such other disturbing cause. Among the most remarkable aberrations in size and colouring of exotic Butterflies, evidently of the same species, those of the magnificent *Papilio Priamus* may be cited. This gorgeous insect in its ordinary character, has the ground colour of the upper surface of the wings, of a full deep metallic green, while in a specimen just received at the British Museum the green is replaced by a perfectly distinct tone of rich orange yellow.

No. 7 is one of the more usual varieties of the female of *P. Alexis*, in which the wings are nearly as blue as those of the males, but have the distinctive border which is found in brown specimens.



## PLATE XXVIII.

No 1.—The Silver-studded Blue Butterfly (*Polyommatus Egon*).

No. 2.—The Female of the Silver-studded Blue Butterfly.

No. 3.—The Silver-studded Blue Butterfly, showing the Under side.

No. 4.—The Caterpillar of the Silver-studded Blue Butterfly.

No. 5.—The Chrysalis of the Silver-studded Blue Butterfly.

No. 6.—The Brown Argus Butterfly (*Polyommatus Agestis*).

No. 7.—The Female of the Brown Argus Butterfly.

No. 8.—The Brown Argus Butterfly, showing the Under side.

THE insects represented in this Plate will complete the illustration of the genus *Polyommatus*, which has occupied the three preceding ones.

*Polyommatus Egon* (the Silver-studded Blue Butterfly, Nos. 1 to 5). This pretty species is at once distinguished by the metallic spots which form part of the markings of the under side of the hind wings, and also by the dark blackish border to the blue on the upper surface of the wings of the male. The female (No. 2) is rather larger than the male, and of a warm coppery brown, all four wings having a bordering of small orange marks of a somewhat triangular form. The under side of the wings, which is very nearly alike in both sexes, is shown at No. 3. The Caterpillar (No. 4) feeds upon Broom, Saintfoin, and several species of Trifolium. The Chrysalis (No. 5) is at first of a bright green colour, but as the shell hardens it becomes brown. The perfect insect is found on marshy commons or damp fields in July. It is very rarely found in the North of England, but in the Southern counties it is not uncommon, especially in certain localities which appear suitable to its habits, particularly in the vicinity of Sarum in Wiltshire, in some places in Nottinghamshire, and Coleshill Heath, Worcestershire. It is found, though rather sparingly, in the metropolitan counties.

There are several rather remarkable varieties of this pretty species. One is a brown variety of the male—the upper surface of both pairs of wings being of a pale tawny colour. Another variety, formerly considered a separate species under the name of *P. Alcippe*, has the wings very narrow, and the pale blue is bordered by a much darker and more distinct band at the edges. A third variety has the two rows of dots on the under surface running into each other, and forming a series of dark stripes which give it a very distinct appearance. This species was named *P. maritima*, as having been found in the salt marshes near Holt, in Norfolk. There are several other varieties of this pretty species, but of a less remarkable kind.

*Polyommatus Agestis* (the Brown Argus Butterfly, Nos. 6 to 8). This very distinct species has all the characteristics of the “Blues” except the blue colour of the upper surface of the wings in the males, both sexes of *P. Agestis* being of the same dark brown hue as the females of most of the other species. The male (No. 6) is of a darker and brighter brown than the female. The female (No. 7) is sometimes rather larger than the male, and has the borders of orange marks more conspicuous, the black spots within them being very strong in the hind wings. The under side of the wings, which is similar in both sexes, is shown at No. 8.

The Caterpillar is described as being green, with a row of angular dorsal markings of a paler tone, and a central line of brown. It is found both in April and June, the perfect insect appearing in June and August, this species being double-brooded.

Some authors consider *P. Salmacis* and *P. Artaxerxes* as mere local varieties of the species under description. But in the collection of the British Museum they are still kept separate and distinct, and will therefore be described as distinct species in this volume.



## PLATE XXIX.

No. 1.—The Dark Argus Butterfly (*Polyommatus Salmacis*).

No. 2.—The Female of the Dark Argus.

No. 3.—The Dark Argus, showing the Under side.

No. 4.—The Scotch Argus Butterfly (*Polyommatus Artaxerxes*).

No. 5.—The Female of the Scotch Argus.

No. 6.—The Scotch Argus, showing the Under side.

By many British Entomologists the two species figured in this Plate are considered mere varieties of *Polyommatus Aegestis*. It is, however, very difficult to draw a line which shall correctly and satisfactorily separate certain slight deviations from a generic type, into distinct "species" on the one hand, and mere "varieties" on the other. In some cases the distinctions produced merely by climate and other local causes are allowed to constitute perfect and specific characteristics, while in others, equally striking differences are treated as mere variations. It would seem that where particular characteristics are constantly and regularly transmitted from the parent to the offspring, the peculiarities, not being variable, must be considered as marks of distinct species. On the other hand, when any such peculiarities of colour or structure are evidently accidental, and occurring in broods where the majority are of the usual kind, then, however striking the differences may appear, they can only constitute "varieties." To meet the first of these cases, the term "permanent variety" has been invented, while the insects clearly belonging to the second category are termed simply "varieties." But it may be fairly assumed that a "permanent variety" is precisely equivalent to a species. Such "permanent varieties" might be tested as to their claim to be considered species by removing broods of them to the localities where the typical species abound, and if their distinctive characteristics remain unimpaired, which they are very likely to do, although originally produced by local causes—then there could be no longer any doubt as to their claim to be considered distinct species, for it is no doubt to local influences, acting through a long series of ages, that many of the most striking "specific" characteristics have been produced.

If such a line of argument be admissible, then, till further investigation throws more light on the subject, *Polyommatus Salmacis*, which is only found in our northern counties, must be considered as a distinct species, inasmuch as its chief characteristics are permanent, and would probably remain so, at all events for a long series of generations, if a colony of it could be established in a more southern situation. The same may be said of *P. Artaxerxes*. It is, however, but fair to add, that gradations of these disputed species occur in intermediate localities, seeming to afford links between these two kinds, which would prove a very close relationship. Mr. Newman, in the "Entomological Magazine," states, for instance, that, as the *Brown Argus* of the metropolitan districts advances to the midland counties, an evident change takes place,—and the band of rust-coloured spots becomes less bright. At Manchester these spots have nearly left the upper wing; at Castle Eden Dene they are scarcely to be traced, and a black spot in the centre of the upper wing becomes

fringed with white, being in some specimens quite white; the Butterfly then changes its name to *Salmacis*. As we proceed further northward, the black pupil leaves the "eyes" on the under side, until, at Edinburgh, it is quite gone, and then the insect is called *Artaxerxes*.\*

It is probable that almost all other specific variations from a generic type might be traced in a similar manner through successive gradations, and the only question would then be, as to whether the term "species," or "permanent variety," should be the one adopted. Being myself rather inclined to class all permanent and transmissible forms as those of distinct species, I shall describe *P. Salmacis* and *P. Artaxerxes* as distinct species, according to the arrangement adopted in the British Museum.

*Polyommatus Salmacis* (the Dark Argus, No. 1). This species is generally conspicuously darker than the Brown Argus (*P. Agestis*), and is further distinguished by an obscure black spot near the centre of the fore wings. The border of dull orange markings of the fore wings are without the black spot in each which distinguishes a similar border in the fore wings of *Agestis*; but in the hind wings the orange border has also the black spots. The female (No. 2) is only distinguishable by a white spot in the centre of the fore wings, and this mark is not a permanent distinction, as it sometimes occurs in the males, while the black spot appears equally transferred to the wings of the females. The under side (No. 3), though slightly differing from *P. Agestis*, as will be seen, presents no very striking distinction.

The Caterpillar stage of *P. Salmacis* is unknown, or it might tend greatly either to establish or destroy its claim to be considered a distinct species. The perfect insect appears in July, and has only been found in the neighbourhood of Durham and Newcastle, seldom above half a mile from the sea. A single specimen has recently been taken near Brighton, which, though described as *P. Agestis* with an unusual white spot on its fore wings, is most probably a specimen of *P. Salmacis*, which may yet be found at other points of the coast, if diligently sought for, as a marine species.

*Polyommatus Artaxerxes* (the Scotch Argus, No. 4). It was formerly thought that this pretty insect was only to be taken at Edinburgh, and in the sole locality of Arthur's Seat. It has however been recently captured in many other places in the north of England, as well as Scotland. The white markings on the under side of the wing (No. 6), which are entirely without the usual black pupil, render it at a glance very distinct from all the other *Polyommatus*, and the discovery of the larva by Mr. Logan, which is of a blueish green, with a dark dorsal line and a pale lateral one, and in other respects differing from the larvæ of all other species of the genus, appears to establish its claim to be considered a distinct species. The female (No. 5) may generally be distinguished from the male by the greater breadth of the border of orange patches on the hind wings. This pretty little Butterfly is double brooded, appearing in June, and again in August. There is some reason to fear that dealers, in their anxiety to procure as many specimens as possible, for which they get a good price, will ultimately extinguish this species as they have done the beautiful *C. Dispar*, in the Fens of Huntingdon,† for they have to furnish foreign as well as British cabinets with the Scotch Argus, which, (though *P. Agestis* is plentiful,) is certainly unknown on the Continent.

Mr. Logan, the enthusiastic Scottish entomologist, expresses himself very energetically on the probable extinction of the race of this elegant little insect, and in defence of his cause has even found out an objection to roadmaking, certainly never dreamed of by speculative proprietors, namely, that the one in question is likely to destroy the best known locality for *Polyommatus Artaxerxes*. He thus writes to Mr. Stainton,—“Government has agreed to construct a carriage-road between Edinburgh and Duddington, much to my disgust, as it is to come along the line of the present footpath, and will destroy all the best localities for '*Artaxerxes*.'” If the Government could be made aware of the serious injury it is about to inflict, in causing the destruction of the best known locality for the capture of Mr. Logan's favourite Butterfly, it might yet desist from its purpose.

\* Mr. Gardner informs us that all three species have been taken at Castle Eden Dane.

† Mr. W. P. Russel has this season taken a fine female specimen of *C. Dispar*, in St. Osyth Woods, Essex.





## PLATE XXX.

No. 1.—The Grizzle Butterfly (*Pyrgus Alveolus*).

No. 2.—The Female of the Grizzle.

No. 3.—The Grizzle, showing the Under side.

No. 4.—The Caterpillar of the Grizzle.

No. 5.—The Caterpillar of the Grizzle preparing to undergo the change to the Chrysalis.

No. 6.—The Chrysalis of the Grizzle.

No. 7.—The Dingy Skipper Butterfly (*Nisoniades Tages*).

No. 8.—The Female of the Dingy Skipper.

No. 9.—The Dingy Skipper, showing the Under side.

No. 10.—The Caterpillar of the Dingy Skipper.

No. 11.—The Chrysalis of the Dingy Skipper.

No. 12.—The Chequered Skipper Butterfly (*Cyclopedes Paniscus*).

No. 13.—The Female of the Chequered Skipper.

No. 14.—The Chequered Skipper, showing the Under side.

No. 15.—The Caterpillar of the Chequered Skipper.

THE Fifth Family of *Rhopalocera*, or Butterflies, is that of the *Hesperidæ*, containing a small group of insects, which by the structure of the antennæ, and other characteristics, form a natural link between the last group of Butterflies and the first group of Moths. The *Hesperidæ* have the head remarkably broad, and the antennæ inserted on each side, instead of being very near together as in other Butterflies. Some of the species also carry their wings horizontally when in repose, after the manner of Moths. The Caterpillars have the head large, as in the perfect insect, and they live in rolled leaves, in the manner of certain Moths; and they also resemble them in forming a slight cocoon, which is rarely the habit of the larvæ of true Butterflies. There are four British genera, containing seven species. All these are of comparatively small size, and have generally a jerking motion in their flight; having thence received the name of “skippers,” by which they are popularly known to collectors.

The genus *Pyrgus*. The antennæ of this genus have the club gradually formed, but not hooked at the tip like some others. The wings are rounded, have deep chequered fringes, and are deflexed in repose. The Caterpillars are leaf rollers, and the Chrysalides are formed in a slightly webbed cocoon within the curled leaf that has served as the abode of the Caterpillar. There is but one British species.

*Pyrgus Alveolus* (the Grizzle, Nos. 1 to 6). This is a common insect, especially in and near woods. The Caterpillar feeds most commonly on the wild Raspberry (*Rubus Idæus*) in April, and again late in the summer, and is to be found within rolled leaves held together by a web. It also feeds on the Teazle (*Dipsacus fullonum*). The perfect insect appears in woods and shady lanes in May and August. It has recently occurred in great abundance at Brighton, Bristol, Epping, and other places.

There are several rather curious varieties of this species, the most permanent of which is one in which the white marks towards the tips of the fore wings run into one great irregular patch leaving only the veins dark, while in the hind wings the white marks are smaller and more obscure. This variety is said to be pretty constant in the forest near Bewdley, Worcestershire, and occurs occasionally in many other localities more irregularly and more sparingly.

The genus *Nisoniades*. In this genus the antennæ are rather longer and more slender than in the preceding,

and have the club attenuating to a point at the tip. The wings are horizontal or deflexed in repose, never being held erect, as is common with true Butterflies. We have but one British species.

*Nisoniades Tages* (the Dingy Skipper, Nos. 7 to 11). This insect is not near so common as the preceding, but is yet found in some plenty in various localities. It is double brooded. The Caterpillar, which feeds in preference upon the Birds-foot-Trefoil, and Field Eryngo, appears in June and September; the perfect insect in May and August. It is found most frequently on the slopes of hills, and in dry exposed places near woods. Bromsgrove, in Worcestershire, and Dovedale, in Derbyshire, are mentioned as places where it has been recently captured in sufficient plenty. The Rev. F. O. Morris informs us, that it is found in great abundance in Ireland, at Ardahan, near Galway.

The genus *Cyelopedes*. The antennæ of this genus are short and stout, and the club thick but not hooked at the tip. The front wings are long in proportion to the hinder pair. The sexes do not differ in colour.

*Cyelopedes Paniscus* (the Chequered Skipper, Nos. 12 to 15). This pretty species is very local, but occasionally abundant in its favourite localities. The Caterpillar (No. 15) feeds upon the Plantain (*Plantago major*), and appears in September. The Chrysalis remains dormant during the winter, the perfect insect appearing in the following June. It is said to be still found in profusion in its old locality, Monk's Wood, Hants, and in a wood near Oundle, Northamptonshire; and many other localities are recorded in which it may be taken in most seasons.



## PLATE XXXI.

No. 1.—The Lulworth Skipper Butterfly (*Pamphila Actæon*).

No. 2.—The Female of the Lulworth Skipper.

No. 3.—A dark variety of the Lulworth Skipper.

No. 4.—The Small Skipper Butterfly (*Pamphila Linea*).

No. 5.—The Female of the Small Skipper.

No. 6.—The Small Skipper, showing the Under side.

No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Small Skipper.

No. 8.—The Chrysalis of the Small Skipper.

THE genus *Pamphila*. The insects assigned to this genus are distinguishable at once from the other Skippers by the conspicuous diagonal line of velvety black which marks the wings of the males; also by the generally paler colours of the females, and the absence in that sex of the black mark above alluded to. The female of *P. Linea* has both pairs of wings paler than those of the male. The female of *P. Sylvanus* has the wings more chequered, as well as paler than those of the male, and the same may be said of the female of *P. Actæon*. There is much less distinction in the colours of the males and females of the other Skippers. In repose the front wings are often held erect, while the hinder pair remain in a horizontal position.

*Pamphila Actæon* (the Lulworth Skipper, Nos. 1 to 3). This rare British insect cannot for a moment be mistaken for the common *P. Linea* by an experienced collector, though when I first took specimens of it at Shenstone, near Lichfield, many years ago, being a very young entomologist, I inadvertently placed the specimens in my collection as varieties of *P. Linea*, not being at that time acquainted with the other species. The Caterpillar is unknown, but, as Mr. Stainton states, the female has been seen to deposit its eggs on the Wood-reed (*Calamagrostis epigejos*). The perfect insect appears in July and August, and with the exception of the specimens taken by myself at Shenstone in 1835, (where I have not heard of any subsequent specimens being captured,) none have been taken in England except at one particular spot on the coast of Dorsetshire, Lulworth Cove, where it was first discovered by Mr. Dale, in August, 1832. As an entomological prize, it was no doubt pursued there pretty actively by the professional collectors, as I find Mr. Morris stating (in 1853) that it is no longer to be found at the precise part of the coast where it was first discovered, but that it was still plentiful at the Burning Cliff. In 1849, Mr. Douglas found it in great plenty in the last-named locality, where he captured above a hundred specimens in a very short time, often sweeping five or six into his net at once. He states at the same time that he was unable to trace the cause of the appearance of this insect in such numbers at that particular spot, to the abundant growth of any particular plant suitable for the food of the larvæ.

The ground colour of the wings of *P. Actæon* is much darker than in *P. Linea*, the bright orange brown of the last-named only appearing in lighter patches in the centre of the fore wings. The female is much lighter than the male, and the wings of a nearly equal tone of orange brown all over, very closely resembling the colour of the female of *P. Linea*. No. 3 is a curious dark variety of the male, which, except in the general dark colour, approaches very nearly to dark varieties of *P. Linea*.

*Pamphila Linea* (the Small Skipper, Nos. 4 to 8). This common and pretty species is abundant everywhere at the season of its annual appearance. It often finds its way even into our large populous towns from the neighbouring woods and fields, enlivening the streets with its skipping flight, yet seldom attracting the attention of the boy Butterfly-hunter in the way that a stray specimen of one of the Garden Whites never fails to do.

The Caterpillar (No. 7) is said to feed on Grasses ; and possibly also on the foliage of Thistles, as the perfect insects are generally found fluttering in great numbers over places where those plants are abundant. It is found in July.

The perfect insect appears in August, being rather later than the rare *P. Aclawn*. Plymouth, Brighton, and Worcester, are places where it has been recently observed in the greatest abundance.





## PLATE XXXII.

No. 1.—The Large Skipper Butterfly (*Pamphila Sylvanus*).

No. 2.—The Female of the Large Skipper.

No. 3.—The Large Skipper, showing the Under side.

No. 4.—The Pearl Skipper Butterfly (*Pamphila Comma*).

No. 5.—The Female of the Pearl Skipper.

No. 6.—The Pearl Skipper, showing the Under side.

No. 7.—The Caterpillar of the Pearl Skipper.

*PAMPHILA SYLVANUS* (the Large Skipper, Nos. 1 to 3). This species, which is the largest of the British Skippers, frequently exceeds in dimension the specimen from which my figure was drawn. I have seen specimens measuring fully an inch and a-half from tip to tip across the front pair of wings.

The Caterpillar is described by Zeller as being of a dull green, speckled with black, with a dorsal line of darker colour, and having underneath, on the tenth or eleventh segments white transverse spots. It feeds on the Meadow Soft-grass (*Holcus lanatus*), and also on other Grasses, in May; and probably appears again in the autumn, as the species is undoubtedly double brooded.

The perfect insect appears in May and again in August, the early brood resulting from the autumnal hatch of Caterpillars, and the August brood from the Caterpillars, which become full fed towards the end of May.

It is very widely distributed, and always more or less abundant, frequenting in preference the borders of woods and shady lanes; but being also found in open parts of the country. It is perhaps more abundant in the southern than in the northern counties; Brighton, Plymouth, Teignmouth, and other places being cited as localities in which it has appeared very abundantly.

*Pamphila Comma* (the Pearl Skipper, or Silver-spotted Skipper, Nos. 4 to 7). This is a very local species, but plentiful in places where it occurs. It is distinguished from all the other species of this pretty genus by the pearly or silvery spots by which the under sides of the wings (No. 6) are conspicuously marked. It however accords perfectly in general character with its congeners, the male being distinguished by the short black diagonal streak, and the female (No. 5) by the lighter tone of the ground colour of the wings, their more speckled appearance, and the total absence of the black diagonal streak, which distinguishes the anterior wings of the other sex.

The Caterpillar (No. 7) feeds on papilionaceous plants, such as Birds-foot-Trefoil, and others of that family. On the Continent it is known to feed on the *Coronilla varia*. It first appears early in June, and is full fed about the middle of July.

The perfect insect is found in August; frequenting in greatest abundance chalky districts in open or elevated situations. The chalk downs in the neighbourhood of Lewes, Sussex, are recorded as a locality in which it has been recently very abundant. Towards the north it is less plentiful, yet far from scarce in many places, especially at Scarborough, where it is sometimes tolerably plentiful.

Having now completed the description and illustration of the whole of our Native Butterflies, it remains only to address a few words to enthusiastic collectors, urging them by diligent observation and research, to endeavour to fill up the lacunæ which still exist in the history of the preparatory stages of some of the most conspicuous species.

Considering that we can scarcely reckon more than sixty species, and that we have perhaps double that number of good field Entomologists at work every season, (that is about two or perhaps more to each butterfly,) it appears strange that any stage of development of any single species should still remain unknown to us. Yet such is the fact, for we are as yet totally unacquainted with the Caterpillar stage of the beautiful and conspicuous insect, known as the "Small Copper", and several other species which are equally common and well known in their perfect state. It has been recently stated by one of our most distinguished Entomological writers, that we positively know more of the transformations of the obscure and minute British Moths, than of those of our conspicuous and beautiful Butterflies. But this remark, though intended as an honest incentive to research, is rather a bold exaggeration; for while we are ignorant of the larvæ and pupa stages of our Butterflies only in a small number of instances, in the case of the small Moths, we know nothing of the preparatory stages of much more than half their number.

Mr. Logan, in Scotland, has recently done much to investigate the transformations of some of the species which are in Scotland, and has published figures of the Caterpillars of several, which were not before known. I hope that his successful example may stimulate the exertions of some of our English Entomologists, and that before many more seasons have passed, we shall be able to produce a really "complete" history of our British Butterflies in all their stages.

H. N. H.

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### ERRATA.

At page 53, for Clifton read Clifden.

In the description of the insects in the title page, for A. A. read V. V.